

タイムリミット 事実婚

高齡童貞

少子化 試供品

晩婚化

好き避け

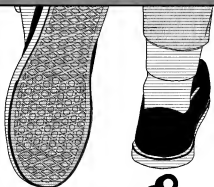
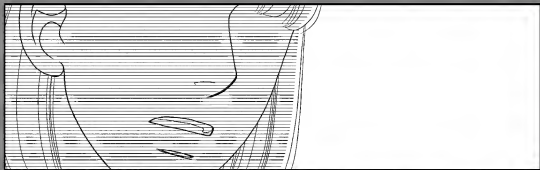
従業員

6

Tsunami
Umino

THE FULL-TIME Wife ESCAPIST

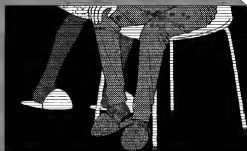
Szégyen a
futás,
de hasznos.



THE FULL-TIME WIFE ESCAPIST

Tsunami Umino

VOLUME
6

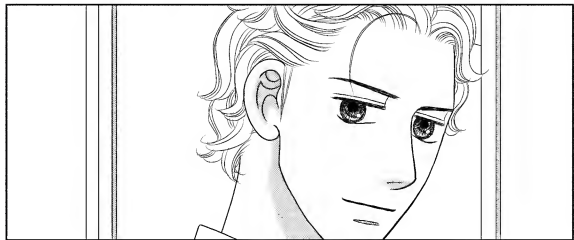
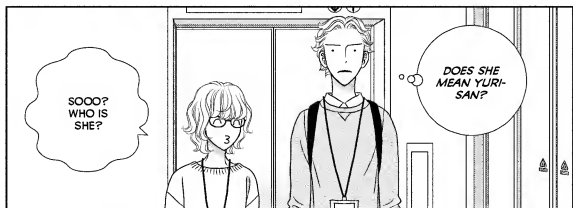
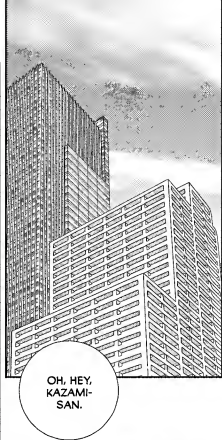


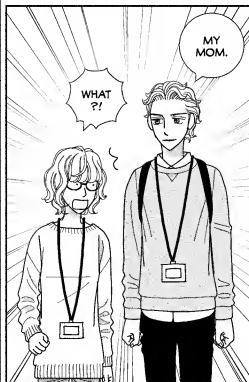
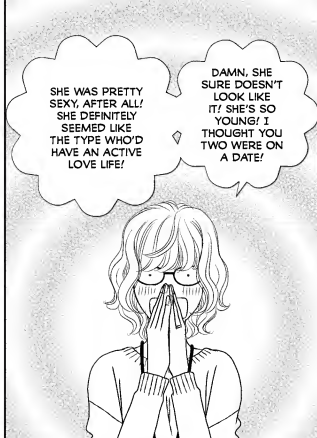
Kodansha
Comics
Kiss



25

**Scratch My Back and
I'll Scratch Yours**







AND APPARENTLY,
THE SAME WOMAN
LOOKS COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT TO YOU
DEPENDING ON MY
RELATIONSHIP
WITH HER.

THAT'S
INTEREST-
ING.



THEN AGAIN, I HAVE
HEARD THAT IT'S NOT UN-
COMMON FOR PLAYBOYS
TO GO AFTER OLDER
WOMEN ONCE THEY'VE
GOTTEN SICK OF THE
GAME...

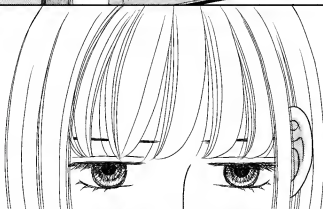
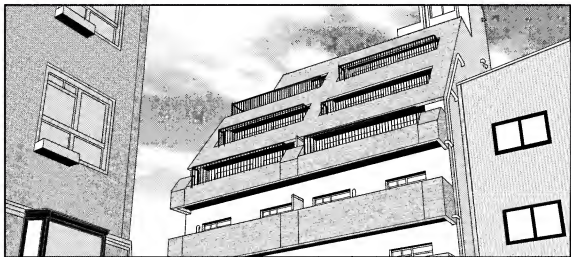
I'M NOT A
PLAYBOY.



I DON'T SEE
HER AS JUST
THE ROLE
SHE PLAYS.

NEITHER.

WAIT,
COME ON.
WHICH IS
SHE?



*I DON'T UNDER-
STAND WHAT
HAPPENED.*



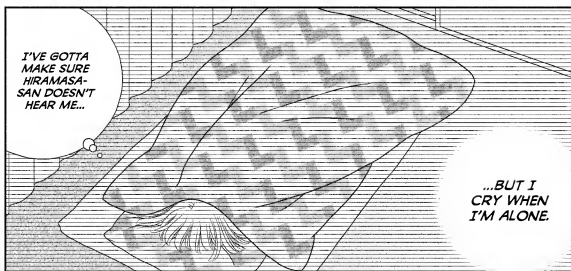
*...BUT I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
EXACTLY HOW
I MANAGED TO
UPSET HIM THIS
TIME.*

*I GET THAT
HE MUST NOT
HAVE LIKED
SOMETHING I
SAID...*

*I WANTED THINGS TO GO BACK TO
HOW THEY WERE, BUT I GUESS IT'S
TOO LATE FOR THAT.*



I PUT A SMILE ON WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER...



GUUUH...

I'D HAVE
PREFERRED NO
HUG AT ALL...

I NEVER
THOUGHT A
HUG COULD
BE SO DE-
PRESSING.

...USED TO
MAKE ME SO
HAPPY. THAT
STUFF MADE
ME FEEL LIKE
HE LIKED ME
THE WAY I
LIKE HIM.

HUGGING AND
KISSING...

BUT MAYBE
I WAS THE
ONLY ONE
ENJOYING IT.

MAYBE HIRA-
MASA-SAN
WAS JUST
GOING ALONG
WITH IT FOR
MY SAKE.

AND
SO...

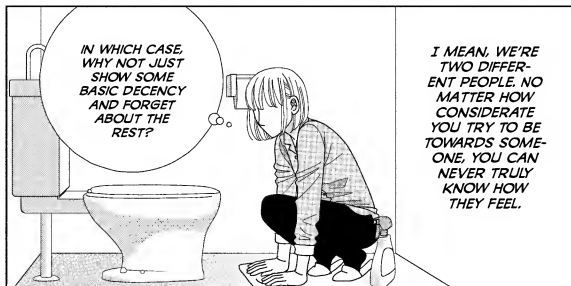
...AFTER A
PERIOD OF
CRYING FITS
AND BOUTS
OF SADNESS...



...Mikuri got
back to her
smart-aleck
old ways.

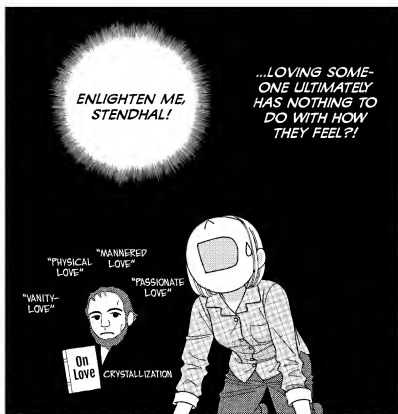


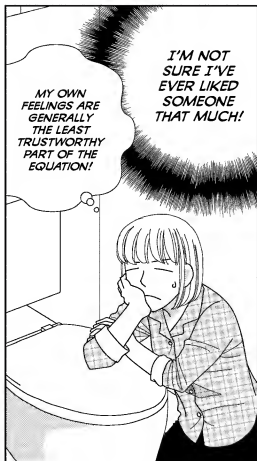
Y'KNOW WHAT?
MAYBE I DON'T
NEED TO WORRY
ABOUT HOW HE
FEELS.





MAYBE THIS STUFF ISN'T ABOUT YOUR PARTNER AS MUCH AS IT'S ABOUT YOU.



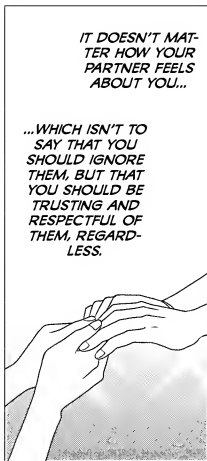


MY OWN
FEELINGS ARE
GENERALLY
THE LEAST
TRUSTWORTHY
PART OF THE
EQUATION!

I'M NOT
SURE I'VE
EVER LIKED
SOMEONE
THAT MUCH!

AT THE
END OF
THE DAY,
TO TRUST
SOME-
ONE...

...IS SIMPLY
TO TRUST
YOUR OWN
FEELINGS
FOR THEM.



IT DOESN'T MAT-
TER HOW YOUR
PARTNER FEELS
ABOUT YOU...

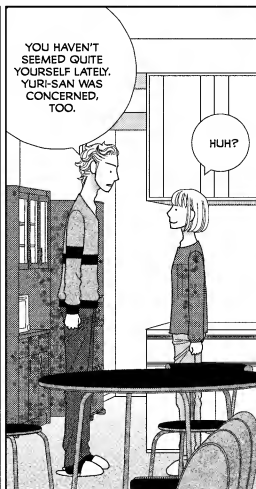
...WHICH ISN'T TO
SAY THAT YOU
SHOULD IGNORE
THEM, BUT THAT
YOU SHOULD BE
TRUSTING AND
RESPECTFUL OF
THEM, REGARD-
LESS.

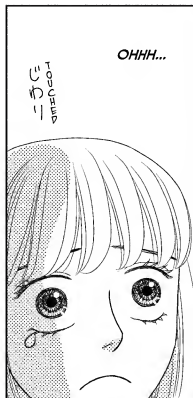


MAYBE THAT'S WHY.

OH.

THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS-

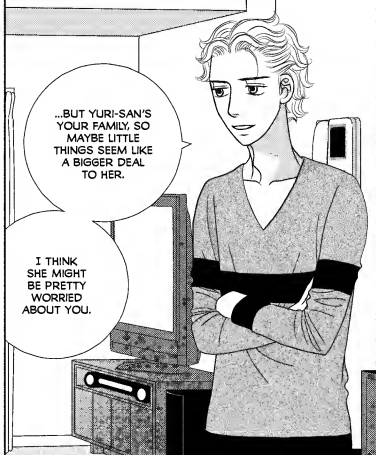




OHHH...

...BUT YURI-SAN'S
YOUR FAMILY, SO
MAYBE LITTLE
THINGS SEEM LIKE
A BIGGER DEAL
TO HER.

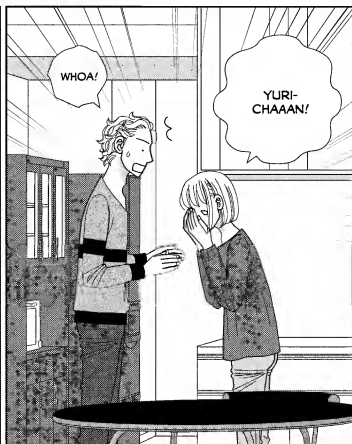
I THINK
SHE MIGHT
BE PRETTY
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.



I'M FINE.
REALLY.

ARE YOU
OKAY,
MIKURI-
SAN?

SNIFFLE



WHOA!

YURI-
CHAAAN!



OHHH...



...MAYBE I WOULDN'T HAVE TO CRY OVER EVERY LITTLE THING.

KAZAMI-SAN SURE KNOWS HOW TO TREAT A GIRL. IF I WERE WITH HIM...



SQUEE
きゅん...

**I ALWAYS
IMAGINED
MYSELF IN
THE POSITION
OF THE MAIN
CHARACTER.**



**BUT I HAD IT
BACKWARDS,
DAMN IT!**

I'M SURE YOU
CAN FIND
SOMEONE MUCH
BETTER FOR YOU
THAN ME.

I'LL BE
WAITING
FOR YOU!

**A COMMON ROMANCE PLOT
IN MANGA AND ON TV IS
FOR THE FEMALE LEAD TO
HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN
HERSELF AT FIRST, BUT TO
OPEN UP OVER TIME TO
SOMEONE WHO LOVES HER
FOR WHO SHE IS.**

**WHAT DID I EXPECT?
THAT SOMEONE'S
JUST GONNA SHOW
UP ONE DAY TO
LOVE ME FOR WHO
I AM DESPITE MY
LACK OF SELF-
CONFIDENCE?**

**EITHER THAT, OR
THAT I WORKED UP
A HELL OF A LOT OF
GOOD KARMA IN A
PAST LIFE.**

**I MUST
THINK I'M A
REAL CATCH,
HUH?**



DEVELOPING
A CRUSH IS
PRETTY EASY.
IT USUALLY
JUST SORT OF
HAPPENS.

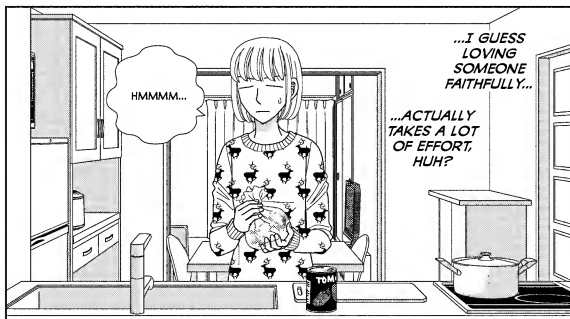


I'M ACTUALLY
THE ONE WHO'S
SUPPOSED TO GO
ON TRUSTING THE
GUY WHO DOESN'T
TRUST ME!

GAAAH!
THAT'S
GONNA TAKE
PRACTICE!

THIS
SUCKS!

BUT...



HMMMM...

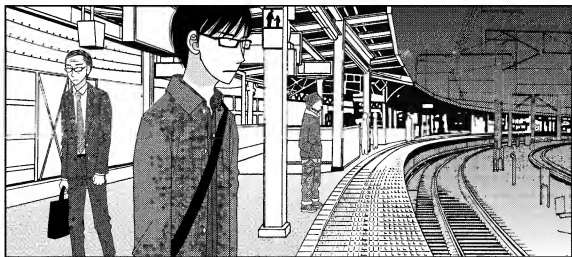
...I GUESS
LOVING
SOMEONE
FAITHFULLY...

...ACTUALLY
TAKES A LOT
OF EFFORT,
HUH?

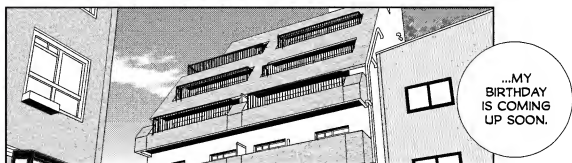
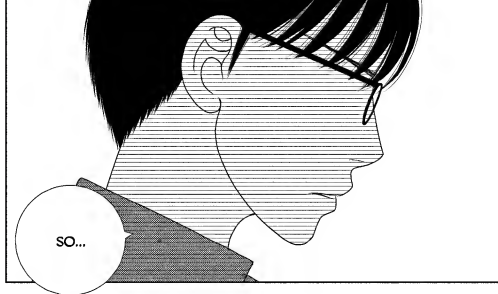
SO DO I GIVE UP?

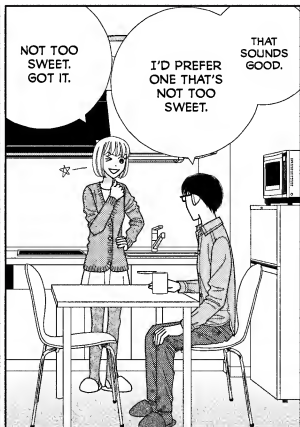


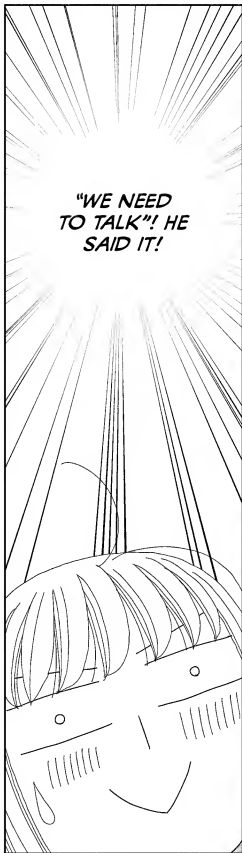
JUST END IT HERE?



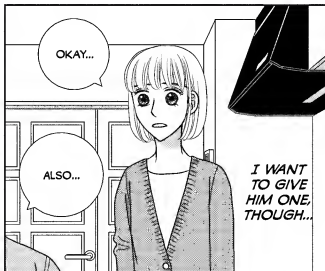
WHAT DO I DO?







**"WE NEED
TO TALK"! HE
SAID IT!**



OKAY...

ALSO...

*I WANT
TO GIVE
HIM ONE,
THOUGH...*



...I THINK THERE'S
SOMETHING WE
NEED TO TALK
ABOUT. PLEASE
MAKE SURE YOU
HAVE SOME TIME
AFTER DINNER
THAT EVENING.



I HOPE
THAT
WILL BE
OKAY.

HUH?

LET'S PUT AN
END TO ALL THIS
NONSENSE ABOUT
CONTRACTUAL
MARRIAGE AND
CONTRACTUAL
RELATIONSHIPS
AND WHAT NOT.

THE
WORST-CASE
SCENARIO...

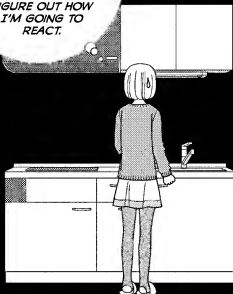


AGGG-
GGGH!



I GUESS I NEED
TO GO OVER
EACH POSSIBLE
SCENARIO IN
MY HEAD AND
FIGURE OUT HOW
I'M GOING TO
REACT.

I WONDER IF
IT'LL BE GOOD
NEWS OR BAD
NEWS.



HOW SATISFIED
CAN HIRAMASA-
SAN REALLY BE
WITH MY AMA-
TEUR COOKING,
ANYWAY?

BUT IF HE WANTS ME
TO GO BACK TO ONE
WEEKLY THREE-HOUR
SHIFT AND NO COOKING,
IT WOULD BE TOUGH TO
MAKE ENDS MEET WITH-
OUT A NEW CLIENT.

△△△ MUMMMM



IF THAT HAPPENS,
THEN I MIGHT BE
ABLE TO GET MY
OWN PLACE AS
LONG AS HE'LL
HIRE ME TO WORK
THE SAME HOURS
FOR HIM AS I DO
FOR KAZAMI-SAN.

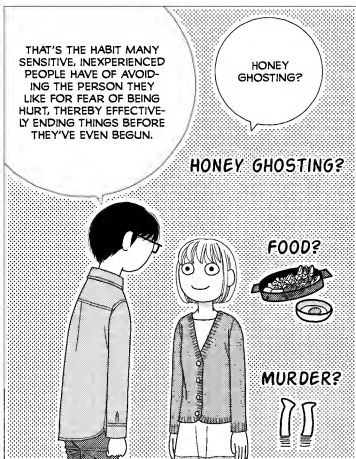
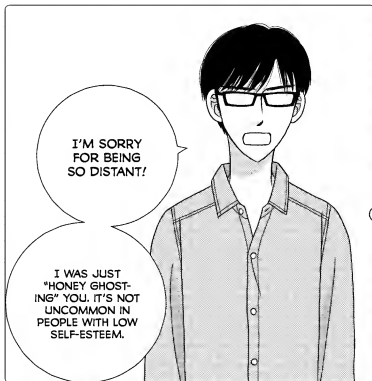


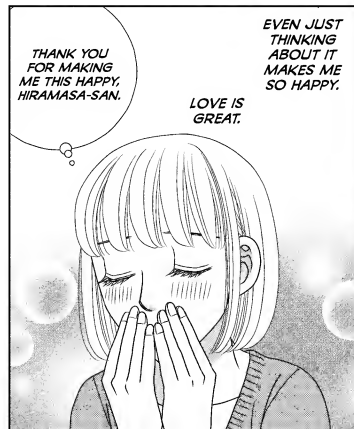
2,000 YEN PER HOUR
×
FOUR-HOUR SHIFT
×
TWICE A WEEK
×
4.5 TIMES A
MONTH
×
TWO PEOPLE

¥144,000*

*ABOUT \$1,440







THANK YOU
FOR MAKING
ME THIS HAPPY,
HIRAMASA-SAN.

EVEN JUST
THINKING
ABOUT IT
MAKES ME
SO HAPPY.

LOVE IS
GREAT.

I GUESS WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS.



GOD, THAT'S
IT! I'M DYING
RIGHT HERE.

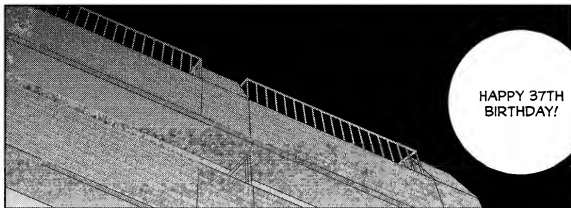
I KNOW IT'S
NOT GONNA
GO LIKE THAT!
I KNOW THAT,
BUT STILL!



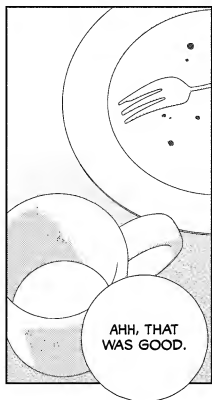
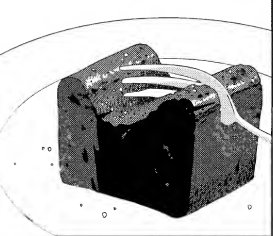
IT'S JUST A
MATTER OF
WHETHER I'M
WILLING TO
ACCEPT IT
OR NOT.

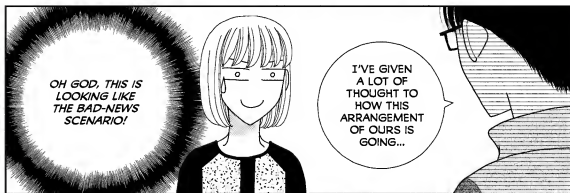
AFTER ALL...

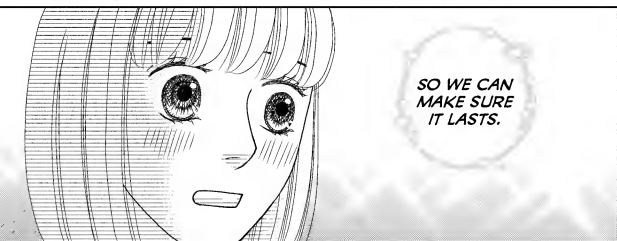
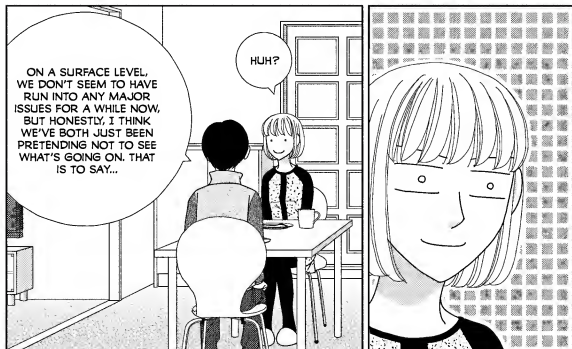
...NOTHING'S GOING TO
CHANGE HOW I FEEL
ABOUT HIM.

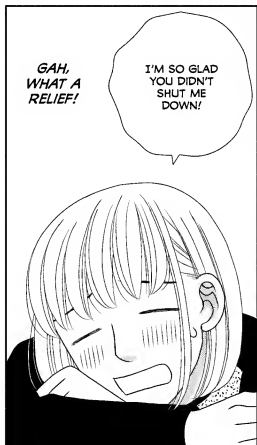


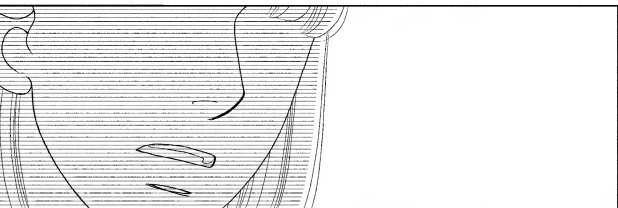
HAPPY 37TH
BIRTHDAY!

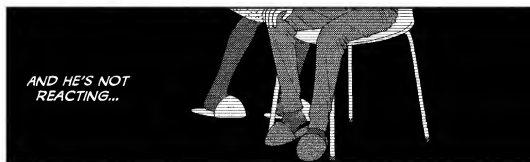


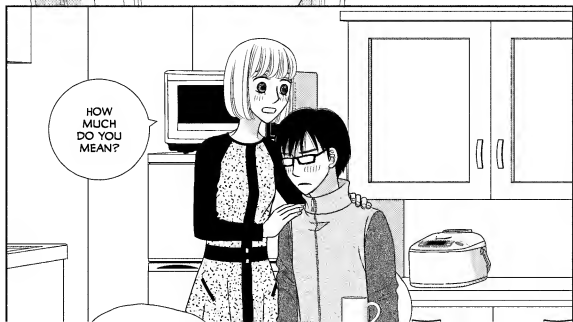


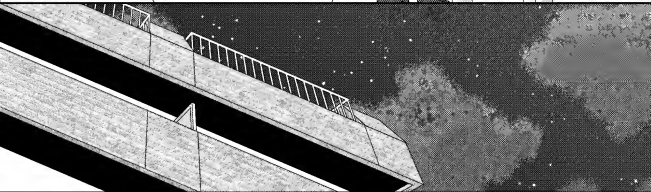












**Seafaring Weather Always
Comes Eventually**



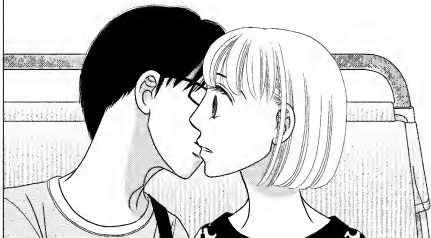
*THIS REMINDS ME OF THE FIRST TIME I
KISSED MIKURI-SAN.*

*AFTER ALL, I'M
NOT EXACTLY THE
KIND OF GUY TO
WHOM THOSE
THINGS COME
NATURALLY.*

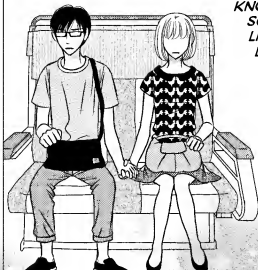
*LIKE, "WHY
AM I DOING
THIS?"*

*I SURPRISED
MYSELF A
LITTLE.*

*AT THE
TIME...*



*I WAS SOME-
HOW CONFIDENT
THAT, WHATEVER
HAPPENED, SHE
WOULDN'T WANT TO
PUSH ME AWAY.*



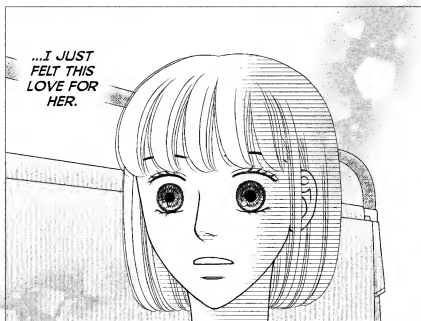
*...I JUST FELT
THIS SENSE
OF PEACE,
KNOWING THAT
SOMEONE I
LIKED ALSO
LIKED ME.*



WELL,
ALL THAT
ASIDE...

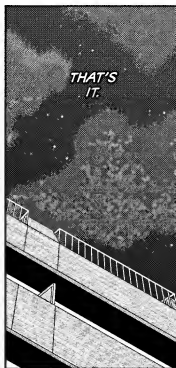
OH...

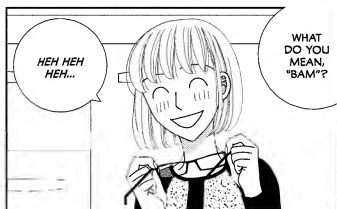
IS THAT
WHAT
THEY CALL
TRUST?



...I JUST
FELT THIS
LOVE FOR
HER.

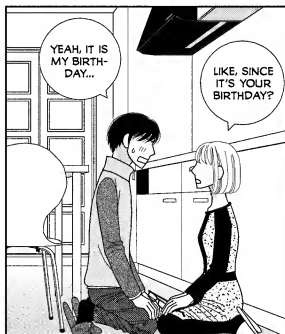
AND I WAS STARTLED TO FIND
JUST HOW WILLING TO MAKE
A MOVE LOVE CAN MAKE YOU.





GAAAH.





SHARING MY BED...



GAAAH! THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, BUT NOW SHE'S GOING ALONG WITH THAT REASONING!

IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, AFTER ALL!



YES, I SHOULD TAKE A SHOWER AND CHANGE CLOTHES MYSELF!

OKAY, WELL, I NEED TO DO THE DISHES AND GET READY FOR BED, SO I'LL BE THERE IN A LITTLE BIT!

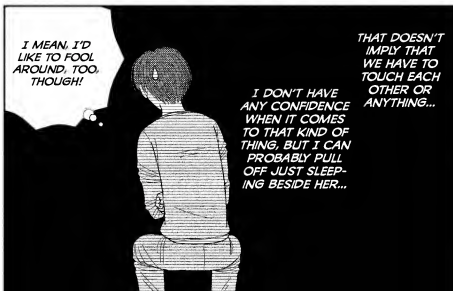


BUT...

I MEAN, I'D LIKE TO FOOL AROUND, TOO, THOUGH!

I DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE WHEN IT COMES TO THAT KIND OF THING, BUT I CAN PROBABLY PULL OFF JUST SLEEPING BESIDE HER...

THAT DOESN'T IMPLY THAT WE HAVE TO TOUCH EACH OTHER OR ANYTHING...



I MEAN,
IT IS MY
BIRTHDAY!
ANYTHING
COULD
HAPPEN!

WHAT IF ONE THING
LED TO ANOTHER,
AND THAT LED TO
DOING "IT"?

GAAAH! I
DON'T WANT
TO HURT HER!
I DON'T WANT
TO HURT HER!

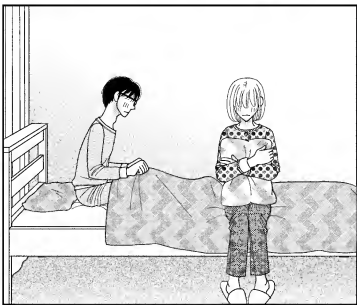
IF IT CAME TO
THAT AND I
TURNED HER
DOWN AGAIN,
WOULD MIKURI-
SAN FINALLY
RUN OUT OF
PATIENCE WITH
ME?

KNOCK
KNOCK

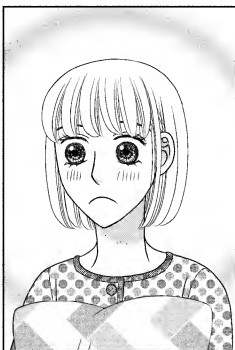
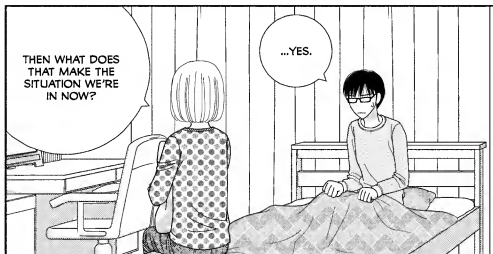
BADUMP
ド
キ
ビク
ウ
ツ
フ
リ
ン
チ

DO CONDOMS
HAVE AN EXPIRA-
TION DATE? DO
THEY GO BAD?

WHAT SHOULD
I DO? I HAVE
ONE CONDOM,
BUT IT WAS
GIVEN TO ME AS
A FREE SAMPLE
AT A CLUB A
FRIEND OF MINE
DRAGGED ME
TO OVER TEN
YEARS AGO.



I GUESS
YOU'D
CALL IT...



...COULD BE
THAT OUR
RELATIONSHIP
HAS GOTTEN
STRONGER.

ANOTHER
WAY OF PUT-
TING IT...

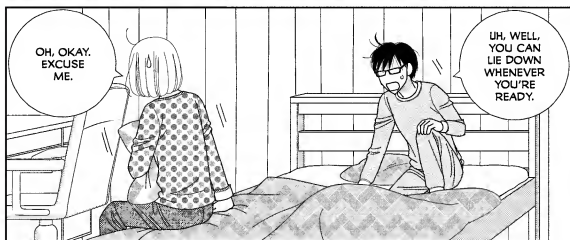
MUTUAL
LOVE...

I WONDER
HOW WE CAN
BALANCE
THIS WITH MY
WORK.

BY FOSTERING OUR TRUST
FOR ONE ANOTHER, WE
CAN ACHIEVE A GREATER
LEVEL OF STABILITY THAN
BEFORE. ON THE OTHER
HAND, THAT MEANS WE'LL
ALSO HAVE MORE RESPON-
SIBILITIES TOWARD EACH
OTHER.

OKAY, SO
WE'LL ONLY
FOOL AROUND
DURING MY
TIME OFF.

WE SHOULD PROBABLY
HOLD OFF ON
THIS KIND OF THING
WHILE YOU'RE ON THE
CLOCK, OR WE'RE LIKE-
LY TO BLUR THE LINES
BETWEEN OUR PRIVATE
AND PROFESSIONAL
RELATIONSHIPS.



GAAAH! THIS
BED IS SO
SMALL THAT
WE'RE PRESS-
ING RIGHT UP
AGAINST EACH
OTHER!

I DID SLEEP
IN THIS BED
ALONE THAT
ONE TIME.
WHEN WAS
THAT?

LOOKING BACK,
THAT MAY HAVE
BEEN WHEN I FIRST
STARTED THINKING
ABOUT HIRAMASA-
SAN THIS WAY.

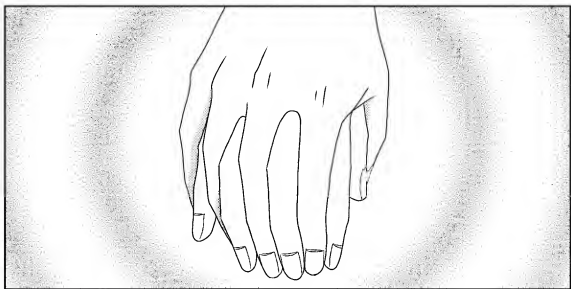
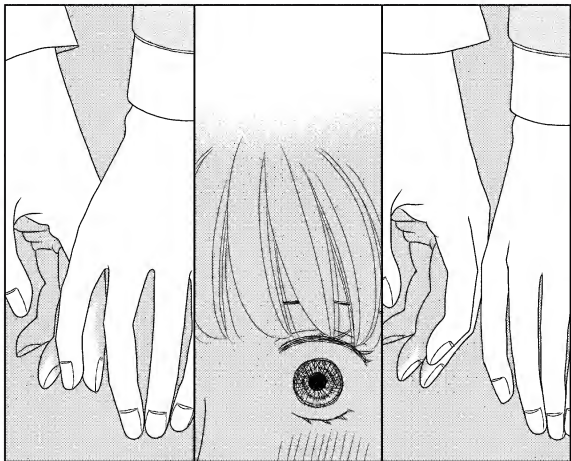
I'M SATISFIED
JUST TO BE
TOUCHING AT
ALL. I MEAN-

NOT THAT
IT WOULD
BE A
PROBLEM.

WHAT IF...

THAT'S
ACTUALLY
NOT TOO
UNLIKELY...

...WE JUST
KEEP LYING
HERE LIKE A
COUPLE OF
LOGS UNTIL
SUNRISE?



AHH.



...DID YOU
WANNA FOOL
AROUND?



THIS IS SO
EXCITING,
THOUGH.

IT'S MAKING
MY HEART BEAT
FAST, BUT AT
THE SAME TIME,
I FEEL RELAXED.



YES?

HIRAMASA-
SAN.



OHH...

うんうん
うんうん





HIRAMASA-SAN.

THIS IS
TRUE
BLISS.

I'M SO
HAPPY.



HE'S SO
WARM.

I FORGOT
HOW MUCH
HEAT A HUMAN
BODY COULD
GENERATE.



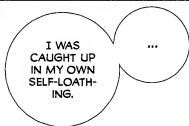
ABOUT
THAT
HUG...



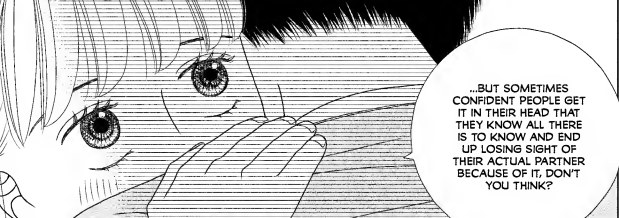
MUTUAL
LOVE REALLY
IS NICE,
ISN'T IT?



...YES,
IT IS.







...BUT SOMETIMES
CONFIDENT PEOPLE GET
IT IN THEIR HEAD THAT
THEY KNOW ALL THERE
IS TO KNOW AND END
UP LOSING SIGHT OF
THEIR ACTUAL PARTNER
BECAUSE OF IT, DON'T
YOU THINK?



YEAH...
THAT'S
TRUE...



NORMALLY, I'D FEEL
LIKE I HAD TO KEEP
TALKING SOMEHOW.

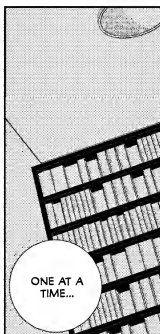
BUT WITH OUR BODIES
TOUCHING LIKE THIS,
I DON'T FEEL SO
DESPERATE TO FIND
SOMETHING TO SAY.
IT'S NICE.

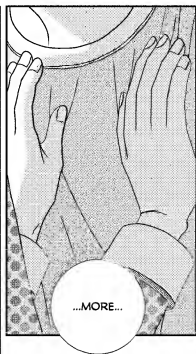
EVENTUALLY...

...WE REACHED
A PAUSE IN THE
CONVERSATION.

...I CAN FEEL IN
MY SKIN THAT
HE ACCEPTS ME.

I WONDER IF
IT'S BECAUSE...







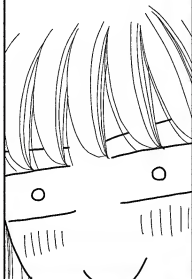
MIKURI-
SAN!

I CAN
FEEL IT.

GOOD.

I FEEL THE
SAME WAY.

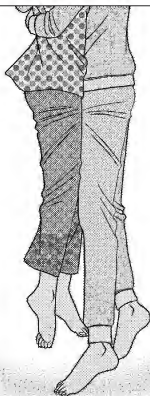
WAIT.



**THE HEAT OF
HIS BODY.**

**THE STRENGTH OF
HIS EMBRACE.**

**THE
HARD
POKING
OF HIS-**



SORRY.

...

**THIS IS
BECAUSE
MIKURI-SAN
GOT CARRIED
AWAY AND
MADE THINGS
AWKWARD!**

**I DIDN'T EVEN
WANT SEX,
THOUGH! WHY
IS THIS HAP-
PENING?**

**HIRAMASA-
SAN.**





HUH?

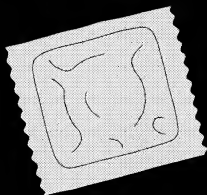


YOU'RE NOT
THE ONLY
WHOSE BODY
IS REACTING.

IN THAT
MOMENT...



...WAS THAT
FREE SAMPLE
I WAS GIVEN
TEN YEARS
AGO.

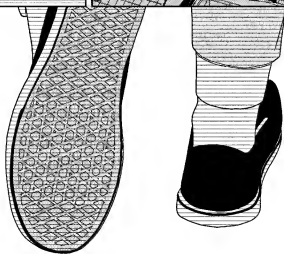
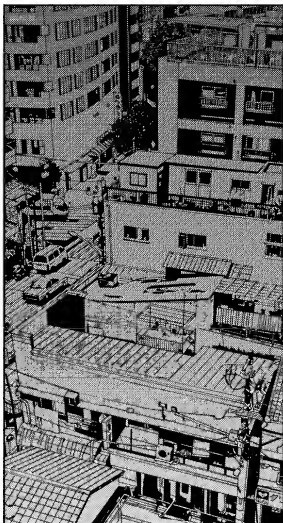
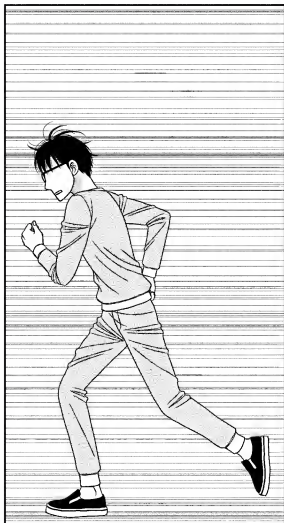


...ALL I WAS
COULD THINK
ABOUT...

27

All's Well That
Ends Well





*WHY IN THE
WORLD AM
I RUNNING
ACROSS TOWN
IN MY PAJAMAS
IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE NIGHT?*

MY MIND'S
TOTALLY BLANK.

I'VE GOTTA
CALM DOWN.

LET'S TRY TO GO BACK OVER THINGS
IN THE ORDER THEY HAPPENED.

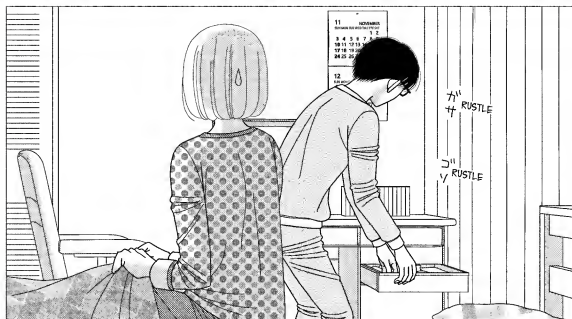
THAT'S WHEN
MIKURI-SAN
SAID...

HIRAMASA-
SAN.

MIKURI-SAN
AND I WERE
LYING TO-
GETHER IN
BED, HOLDING
EACH OTHER...

...AND I GOT
AN ERECTION.





ONE OF
THESE.



THIS ONE WAS ACTUALLY
GIVEN TO ME OVER TEN
YEARS AGO AS A FREE
SAMPLE AT A CLUB A
FRIEND OF MINE DRAGGED
ME TO, SO I HONESTLY
CAN'T BE SURE WHETHER
IT WOULD ACTUALLY
WORK OR IF IT'S GONE
BAD OR SOMETHING.

OH.
BUT!

WHAT?!





GOD.

MIKURI-
SAN.

YES?

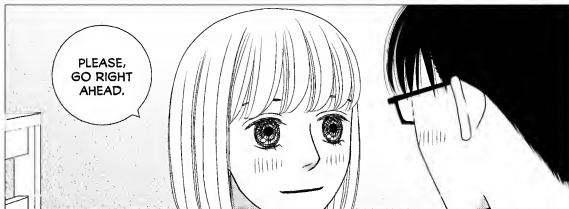
I REALLY
LOVE YOU,
TOO, MIKURI-
SAN.

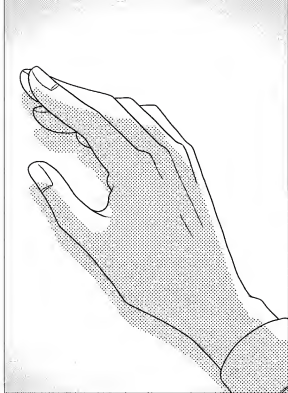


DO YOU
MIND IF
I TOUCH
YOU?



PLEASE,
GO RIGHT
AHEAD.









OH, SORRY.
THAT CAME
OUT OF
NOWHERE.



WAIT, WHAT?!
WHAT KIND OF
A QUESTION IS
THAT, MIKURI-
SAN?!



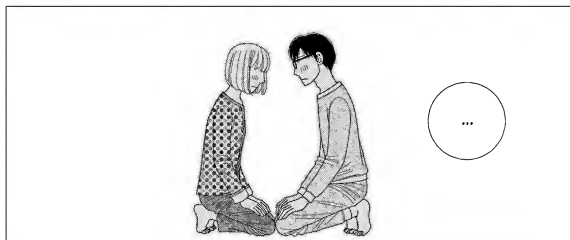
OH
YEAH.

I WOULDN'T
KNOW HOW SEN-
SITIVE WOMEN'S
NIPPLES ARE IN
THE FIRST PLACE.



WELL, I GUESS,
MORE THAN
THE PHYSICAL
STIMULATION...

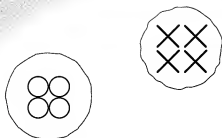
...IT'S PROBABLY
THINKING ABOUT
WHAT WE'RE
DOING THAT
GETS ME MOST
EXCITED.



...AND WE GOT
OURSELVES
MORE EXCITED
THAN EVER
BEFORE.

(AROUND THIS PART, MY MIND
BASICALLY GOES BLANK)

ALTHOUGH...



...WE NEVER
DID USE THAT
CONDOM.

WHY NOT?

AHHH HA HA
HA HA! KILL
ME NOW!!!

BECAUSE I
COULDN'T
GET "IT"
MORE THAN
HALFWAY
UP!!!

HIRAMASA-
SAN!

THUD!
THUD!
THUD!

...I RAN OUT
THE DOOR IN
MY PAJAMAS.

I THINK I'M
GOING TO RUN
DOWN TO THE
CONVENIENCE
STORE.

SO...

HUH?

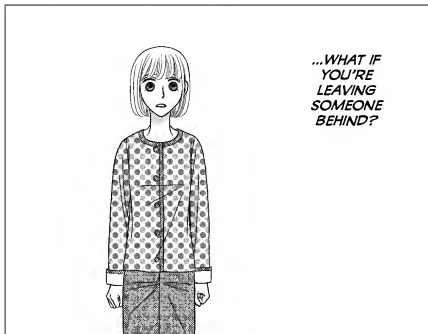


I GUESS I'M SORT OF...

...ALWAYS RUNNING AWAY.

*NOT THAT RUNNING AWAY IS
NECESSARILY A BAD THING.*

*ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE IN DANGER.
THEN, YOU SHOULD PROBABLY RUN
AWAY AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN.*



*...WHAT IF
YOU'RE
LEAVING
SOMEONE
BEHIND?*

BUT...

*YOU CAN JUST FORGET ABOUT THEM
IF YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN HAVING
ANYTHING MORE TO DO WITH THEM...*

*...BUT IF IT'S SOMEONE YOU
CARE ABOUT, AREN'T YOU
GOING TO HURT THEM?*



*TOO BAD
YOU DON'T
LIKE ME
BACK...*

*...JUST WAITED
ON MIKURI-SAN
TO MAKE THE
FIRST MOVE.*

I'VE ALWAYS...

I DO
LOVE
YOU.



PROBABLY...

...MORE
THAN YOU
REALIZE.



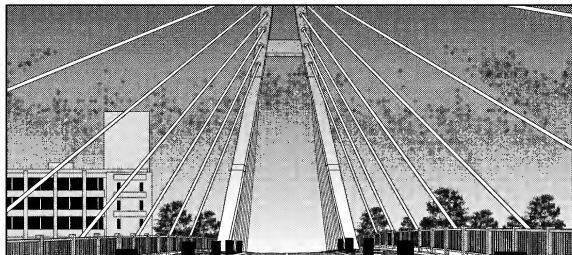
AND YET...

*...SHE NEVER GAVE UP ON ME.
SHE JUST KEPT LOVING ME.*





*IF YOU ONLY RAN AWAY BECAUSE YOU WERE
STARTLED OR DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...*



*IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LET GO OF THE
PERSON YOU'VE LEFT BEHIND...*

*THEN I GUESS YOU HAVE TO CATCH
YOUR BREATH, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE
ANY NECESSARY SUPPLIES...*

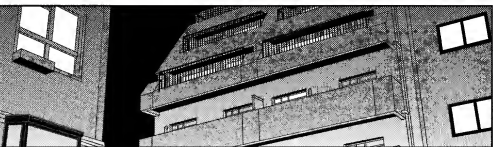
*...REEVALUATE THE SITUATION,
AND GO BACK.*

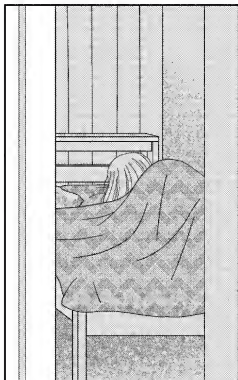


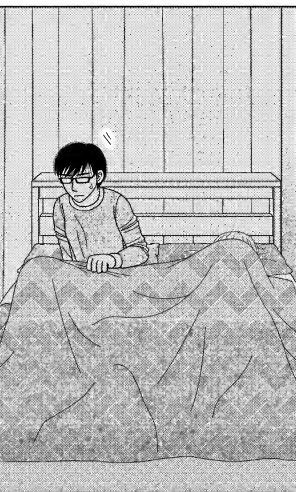
*EVEN IF YOU MESS UP, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE
TO GO RETURN THEM OVER AND OVER AGAIN.*

*THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE
SOMEONE WHO ACCEPTS YOU.*

MIKURI-SAN.

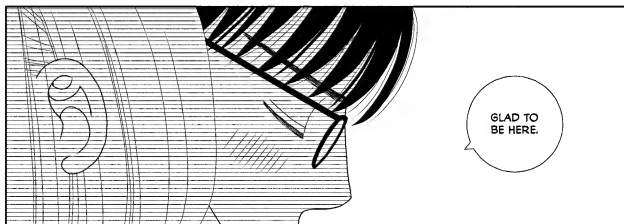


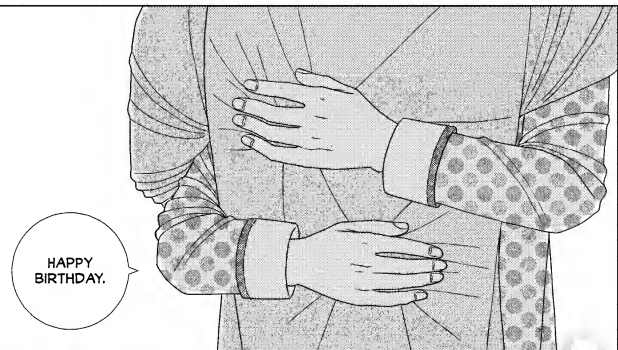














THEN WE HELD
EACH OTHER AGAIN
AND LAY THERE.



JUST A LITTLE
PAST FIVE. IT'S
NOT TIME TO
GET UP YET.

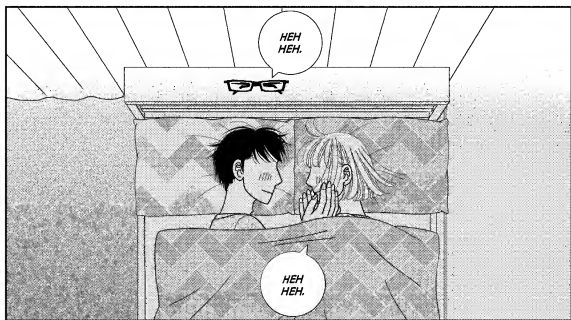
MMM...
WHAT TIME
IS IT?



I DOZED OFF A COUPLE OF
TIMES, BUT I WASN'T SUR-
PRISED THAT I COULDN'T
SLEEP VERY WELL.

UGH, I
DON'T FEEL
LIKE GOING
TO WORK...





*I WANT TO TOUCH YOU EVERYWHERE
YOU'RE SOFTEST, ON YOUR BODY AND
IN YOUR HEART.*

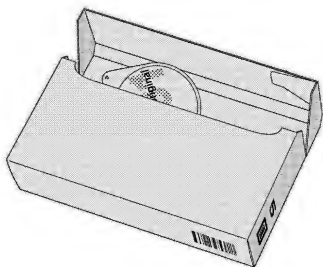


*I THINK THAT'S WHAT CAN
LOOSEN MY BODY WHERE IT'S
TIGHTENED AND SOFTEN MY
HEART WHERE IT'S HARDENED.*

*ALL THOSE THINGS THAT
I DON'T WANT ANYONE
TO KNOW ABOUT...*

*...EXCEPT NOW I WANT
YOU TO KNOW THEM.*

*I ENDED UP VERY LATE
TO WORK THAT DAY.*





*The Full-Time
Wife Escapist*

Tsunami Umino

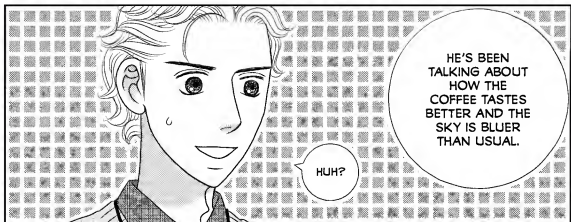
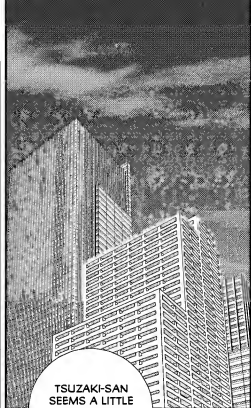


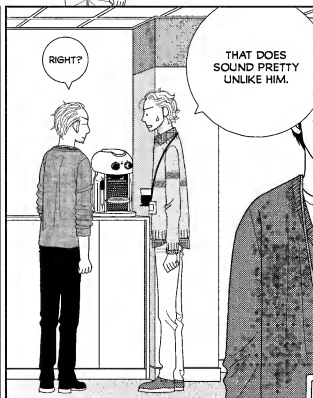
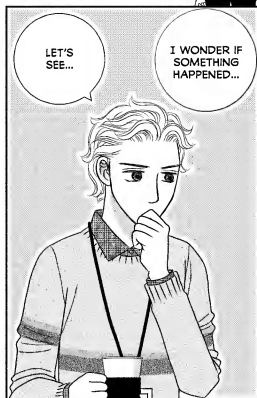
THE FULL-TIME
Wife ESCAPIST

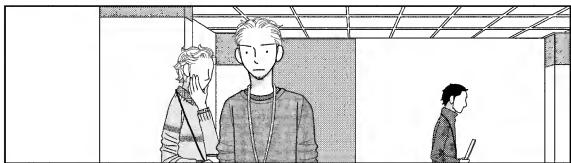
28

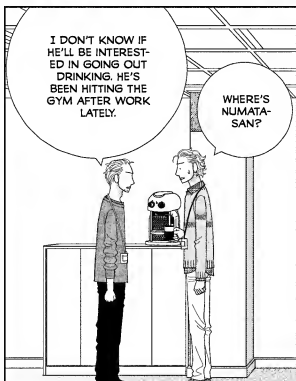
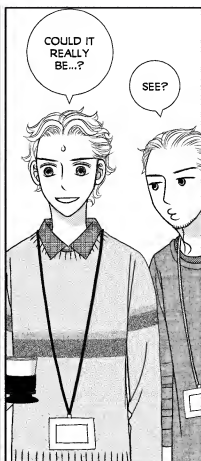
Don't Knock It Till You've Tried It

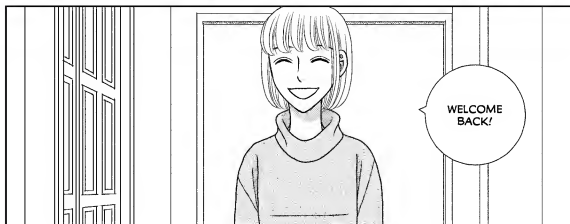


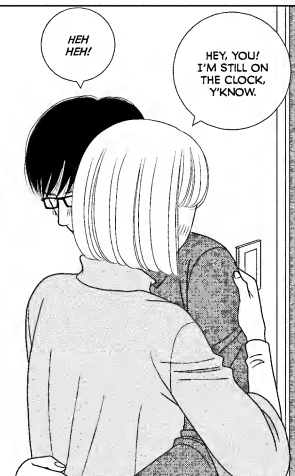






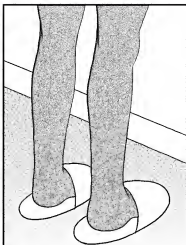








...IS
DEFINITELY
WAITING
FOR ME.



HIRAMASA-SAN...

WHO KNEW A
THIRTY-SEVEN-
YEAR-OLD MAN IN
GLASSES COULD
BE AS CUTE AS A
BABY PANDA?

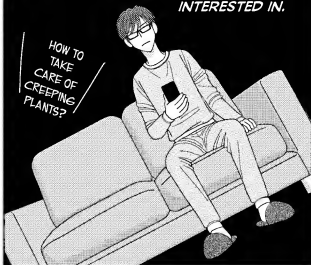
HOW CAN
ANYTHING BE
THAT CUTE,
THOUGH?

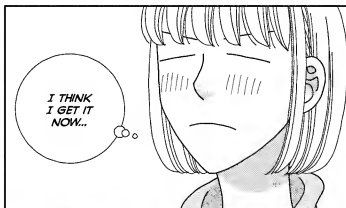


AND HE MAY HAVE
HIS PHONE OUT, BUT
I DON'T THINK HE'S
ACTUALLY DOING
ANYTHING WITH IT.

I MEAN, THAT SHOW
HE'S GOT ON DOES
NOT SOUND LIKE
SOMETHING HE'D BE
INTERESTED IN.

HOW TO
TAKE
CARE OF
CREEPING
PLANTS?





I THINK
I GET IT
NOW...

COME TO THINK OF IT, I
THINK I HEARD SOMEWHERE
THAT BETWEEN CUTE AND
COOL, CUTE ALWAYS WINS,
BECAUSE YOU STOP BEING
COOL AS SOON AS YOU DO
SOMETHING DORKY, BUT A
CUTE PERSON IS CUTE NO
MATTER WHAT THEY DO.



HUH? OH,
YEAH.



ARE YOU
DONE
YET?



WHY DON'T
YOU SIT
DOWN?

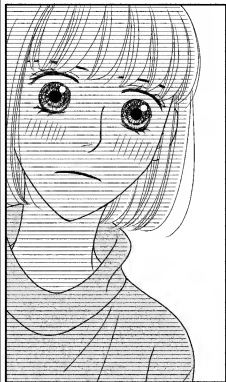
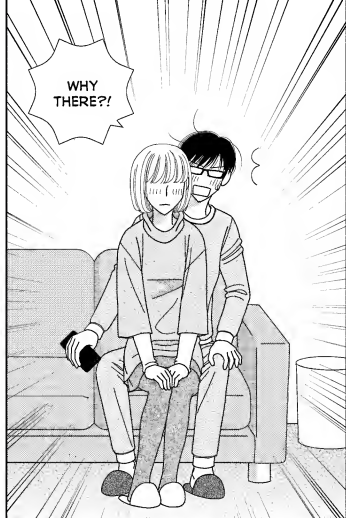
PAT
PAT



WELL, I STILL
NEED TO
GET SOME
THINGS
READY FOR
TOMORROW,
BUT...

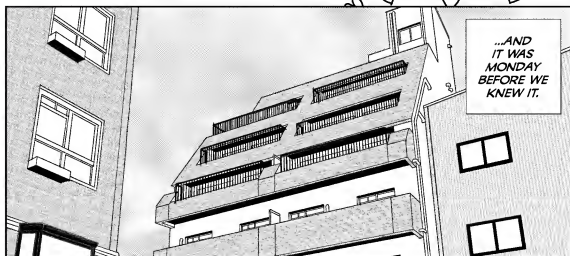
COME OVER
HERE FOR A
MINUTE.

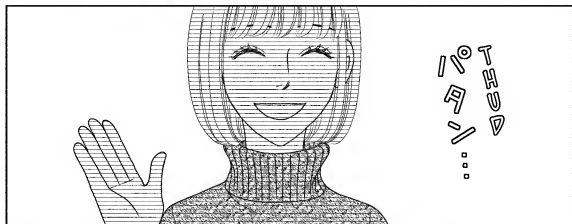
ALL
RIGHT.

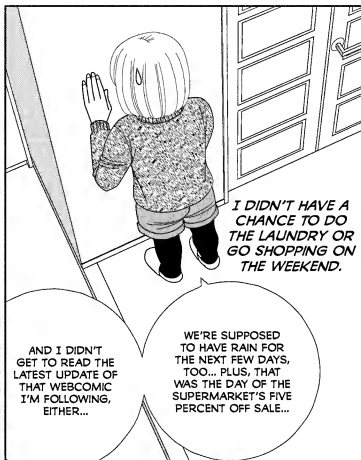




SO WE SPENT ALL WEEKEND FOOLING AROUND...







I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO DO THE LAUNDRY OR GO SHOPPING ON THE WEEKEND.

AND I DIDN'T GET TO READ THE LATEST UPDATE OF THAT WEBCOMIC I'M FOLLOWING, EITHER...

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE RAIN FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, TOO... PLUS, THAT WAS THE DAY OF THE SUPERMARKET'S FIVE PERCENT OFF SALE...

IT'S LIKE...

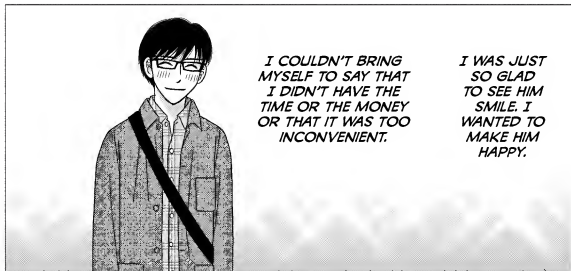
...THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN WORK AND OUR PRIVATE LIVES STARTED BREAKING DOWN THE MINUTE WE REALIZED OUR FEELINGS WERE MUTUAL.



OR MAYBE I SHOULD SAY THAT ROMANCE IS EATING AWAY AT BOTH OUR WORK AND OUR PRIVATE LIVES.

I GUESS THAT'S NOT AN UNCOMMON PROBLEM IN RELATIONSHIPS...

SMILE



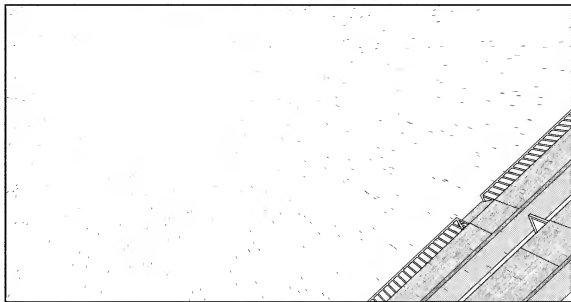
*I COULDN'T BRING
MYSELF TO SAY THAT
I DIDN'T HAVE THE
TIME OR THE MONEY
OR THAT IT WAS TOO
INCONVENIENT.*

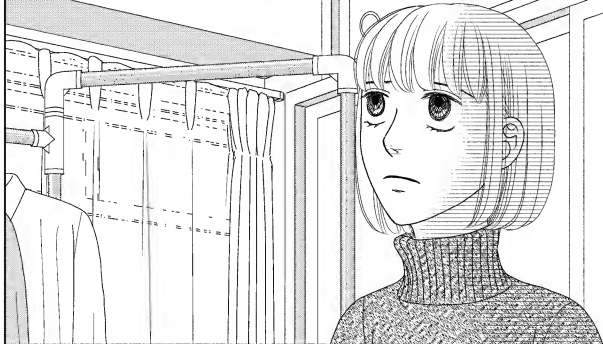
*I WAS JUST
SO GLAD
TO SEE HIM
SMILE. I
WANTED TO
MAKE HIM
HAPPY.*



*ALTHOUGH HE
PROBABLY FEELS
THE SAME WAY...
I DON'T THINK
HIRAMASA-SAN
WAS ABLE TO GET
ANYTHING DONE
ON THE WEEKEND,
EITHER.*

*I SHOULD'VE TOLD
HIM, BUT I HELD
IT IN BECAUSE I
DIDN'T WANT TO
SPOIL OUR GOOD
TIME.*



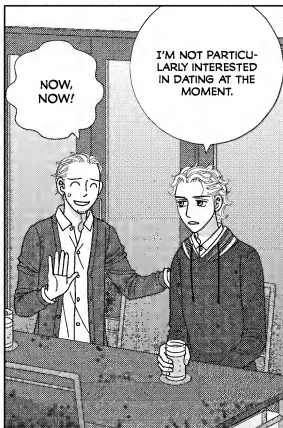
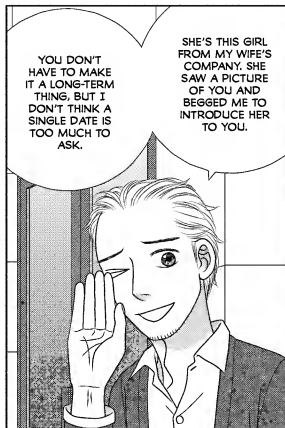


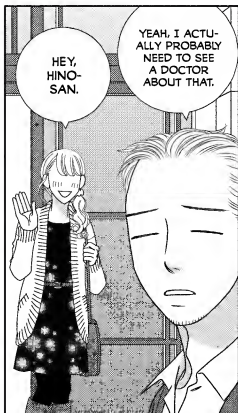
I'M HAVING FUN...

I'M HAPPY...

*I'M DOWNRIGHT
CONTENT, BUT...*

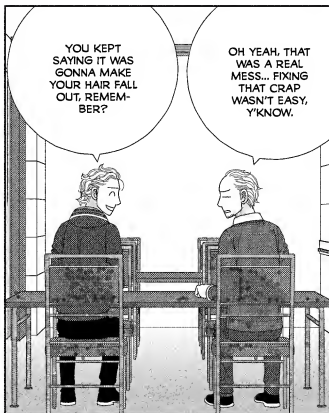






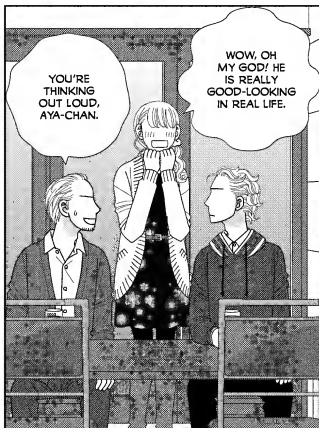
HEY,
HINO-
SAN.

YEAH, I ACTU-
ALLY PROBABLY
NEED TO SEE
A DOCTOR
ABOUT THAT.



YOU KEPT
SAYING IT WAS
GONNA MAKE
YOUR HAIR FALL
OUT, REMEM-
BER?

OH YEAH, THAT
WAS A REAL
MESS... FIXING
THAT CRAP
WASN'T EASY,
Y'KNOW.



YOU'RE
THINKING
OUT LOUD,
AYA-CHAN.

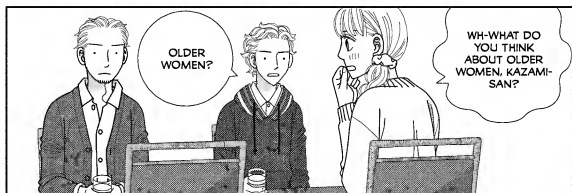
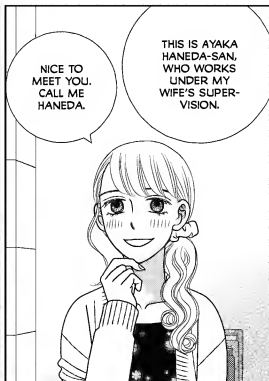
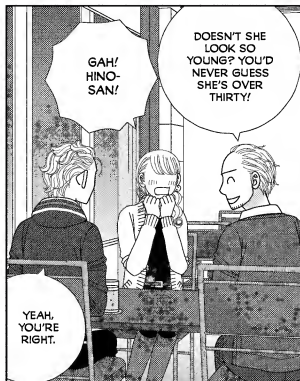
WOW, OH
MY GOD! HE
IS REALLY
GOOD-LOOKING
IN REAL LIFE.

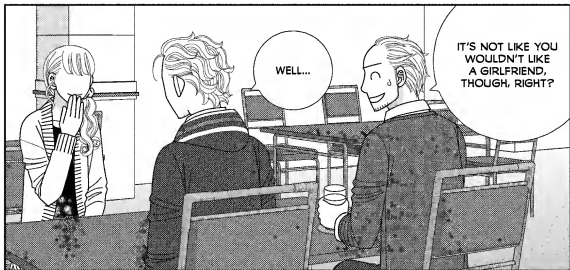
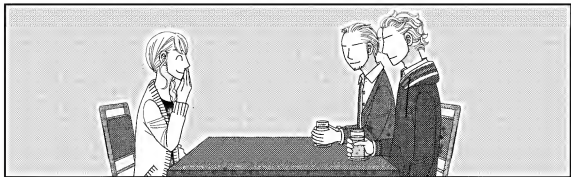
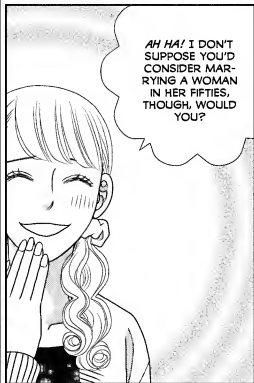


YES, IT'S
CERTAINLY
BEEN A
WHILE.

LONG TIME
NO SEE,
AYA-CHAN.

OH, HEY.
SORRY TO
CALL YOU
HERE ON
SUCH SHORT
NOTICE.



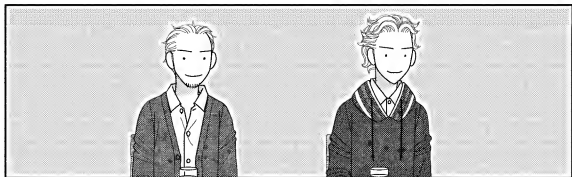




SO IF YOU
FOUND
THE RIGHT
PERSON, YOU
MIGHT WANT
TO MARRY
THEM!

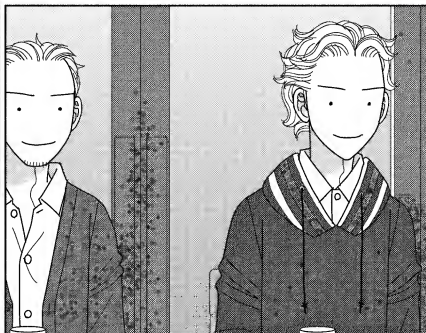
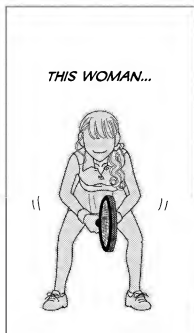
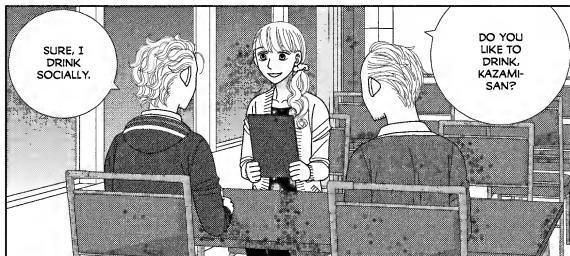


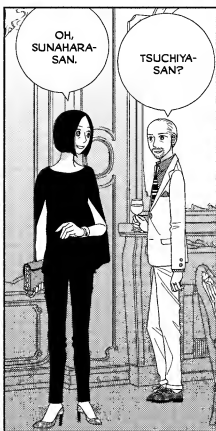
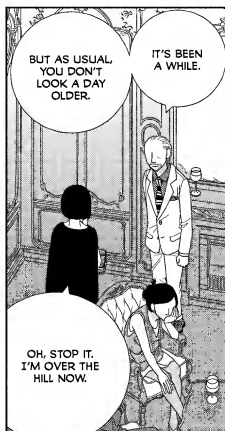
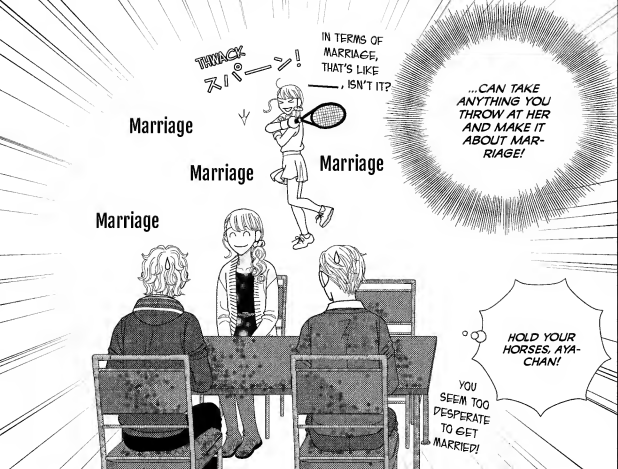
I GUESS
THAT
DEPENDS
ON THE
PERSON.

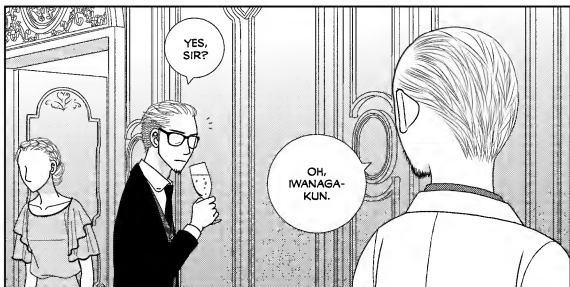
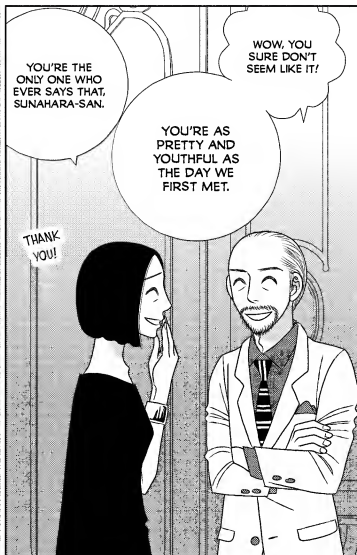
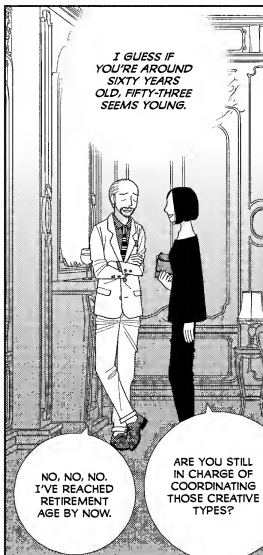


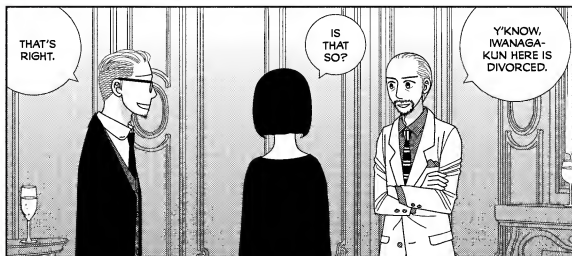
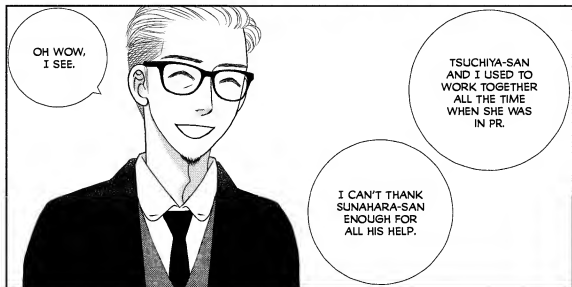
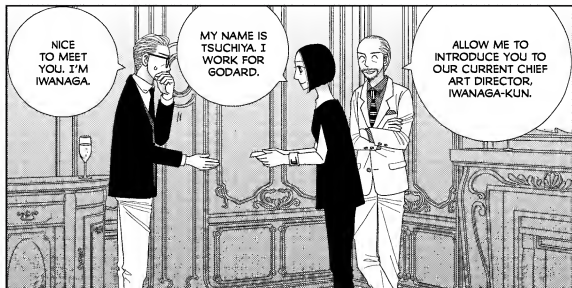
ARE YOU GUYS
HAVING BEERS?
I GUESS I'LL
HAVE ONE,
TOO, THEN.

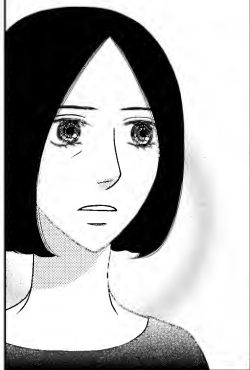
YOU SHOULD
ORDER SOME-
THING. WHAT
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO DRINK?









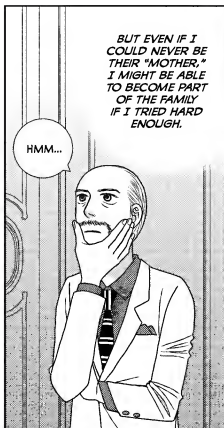


*OH, I HADN'T
THOUGHT OF THAT.*



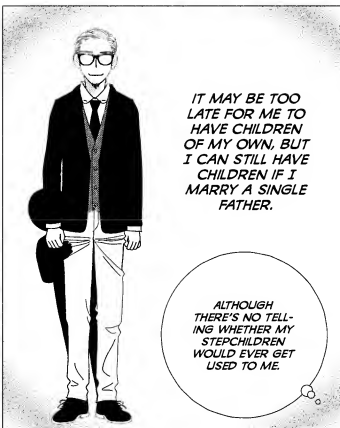
*THAT'S WHY I'D
LIKE TO GET
REMARRIED. FOR
THEIR SAKE, SO
THEY CAN HAVE A
MOTHER.*

*I GOT CUSTODY
OF THE KIDS AND
AM RAISING THEM
AS BEST I CAN,
BUT WE DIDN'T
HAVE THEM UNTIL
WE WERE IN OUR
FORTIES, SO
THEY'RE STILL ONLY
IN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.*



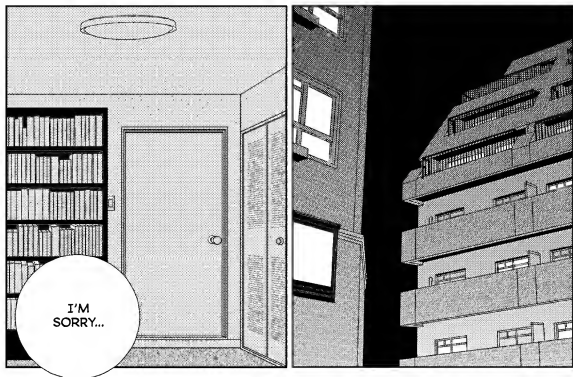
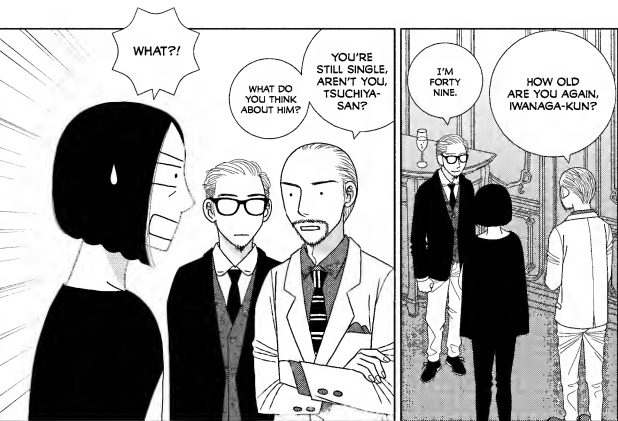
HMM...

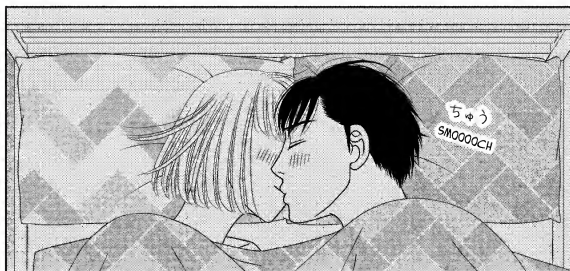
*BUT EVEN IF I
COULD NEVER BE
THEIR "MOTHER,"
I MIGHT BE ABLE
TO BECOME PART
OF THE FAMILY
IF I TRIED HARD
ENOUGH.*



*IT MAY BE TOO
LATE FOR ME TO
HAVE CHILDREN
OF MY OWN, BUT
I CAN STILL HAVE
CHILDREN IF I
MARRY A SINGLE
FATHER.*

*ALTHOUGH
THERE'S NO TELL-
ING WHETHER MY
STEPCHILDREN
WOULD EVER GET
USED TO ME.*







AFTER THAT
ONE ATTEMPT,
WE ONLY
ENDED UP
ACTUALLY
DOING IT
ONCE.

BUT I FIND
THIS VERY
SATISFYING
IN ITS OWN
RIGHT.



MIKURI-
SAN.

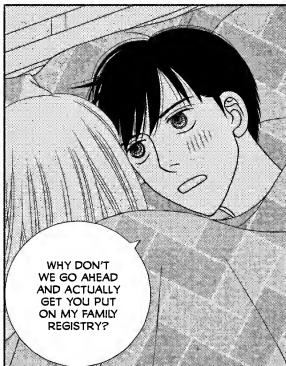


YES?

I'VE BEEN
THINKING...



HUH?



WHY DON'T
WE GO AHEAD
AND ACTUALLY
GET YOU PUT
ON MY FAMILY
REGISTRY?



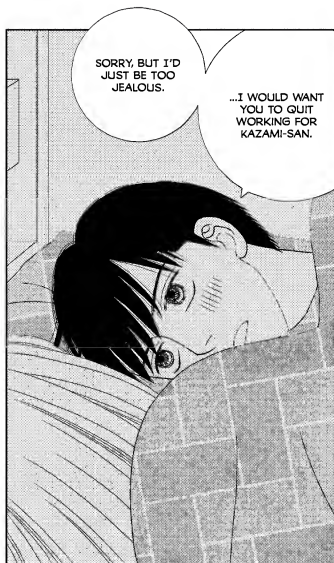
I-IF WE
DID THAT...

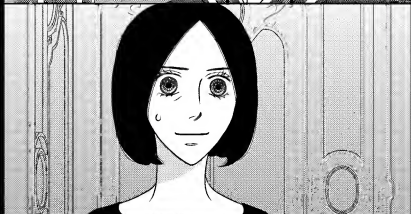
I MEAN, WE'RE
ALREADY OSTENSIBLY
MARRIED, SO I DOUBT
IT WOULD CHANGE
MUCH.



WOULD I STILL
GET THEM, OR
WOULD I HAVE
TO WORK FOR
FREE?

...WHAT
WOULD
HAPPEN TO
MY WAGES?

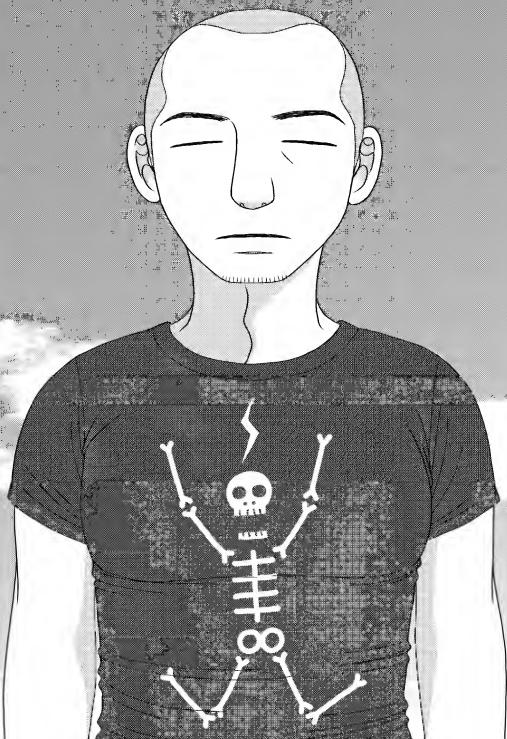




MARRIAGE...!



A Bolt Out of the Blue



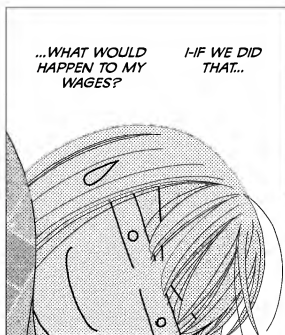


NO.

THERE'S SOME-
THING I'D LIKE
TO TALK TO YOU
ABOUT AFTER
DINNER. DO YOU
MIND?



HIRAMASA-
SAN.



...WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN TO MY
WAGES?

I-IF WE DID
THAT...



WHY DON'T WE
GO AHEAD AND
ACTUALLY PUT
YOU ON MY FAMILY
REGISTRY?



WE'VE TALKED
THROUGH
ALL KINDS OF
THINGS BY
NOW.

IT'LL BE
OKAY.



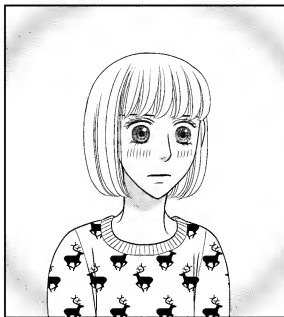
IF SOMETHING'S
UP...

...WE'VE JUST GOTTA TALK
THROUGH IT TOGETHER
INSTEAD OF FEELING DOWN
ABOUT IT ALL BY OURSELVES.



NOW THAT I
THINK OF IT, BY
SUGGESTING WE
PUT YOU ON MY
FAMILY REGISTRY,
I WAS BASICALLY
PROPOSING TO
YOU.







SORRY TO
KEEP YOU
WAITING.

ARE YOU
READY
NOW?



YES!

COME TO THINK OF IT, I STARTED OUT
AS HIS MAID, AND THEN I BECAME HIS
LIVE-IN "WIFE" AS A JOB.



I GUESS THE
CLOSEST WE
CAME WAS
OUR COMPANY
OUTING/HONEY-
MOON.

SO WE'VE NEVER
REALLY BOTH-
ERED GOING OUT,
EVEN THOUGH WE
ENDED UP AC-
TUALY HAVING
FEELINGS FOR
EACH OTHER.

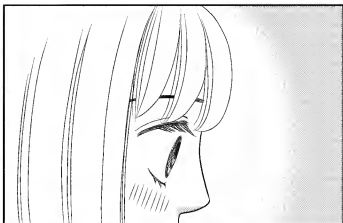
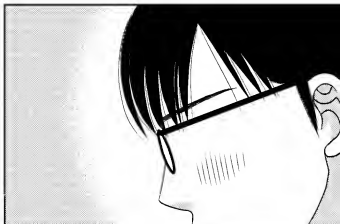


GOD, HOW
MANY YEARS
HAS IT BEEN?

DATES
ARE SO
NICE.



DATES ARE
GREAT!
THEY'RE SO,
SO NICE!



WHY DO
PEOPLE WEAR
THEM WHEN
THEY GET
MARRIED?

I WONDER IF
WEARING A
RING ALL THE
TIME GETS IN
THE WAY.

HMM, MAYBE RINGS
ARE JUST ONE OF
THE ONLY KINDS OF
ACCESSORY YOU
CAN LEAVE ON ALL
THE TIME.

WE HAVEN'T
BEEN WEARING
WEDDING RINGS,
SO WOULDN'T
IT BE WEIRD TO
START NOW?

SHOULD
WE BUY
RINGS?

THAT'S
TRUE...

SORT OF LIKE
HOW WOMEN
USED TO PAINT
THEIR TEETH
BLACK.

SO PEOPLE
CAN TELL
WHO'S
MARRIED
AND WHO
ISN'T?

BUT WHY DO
YOU EVEN
NEED TO LEAVE
IT ON ALL THE
TIME?

I GUESS THERE'S
PIERCINGS, TOO,
BUT THAT PROBABLY
WOULDN'T BE SO
GREAT FOR A GUY
WHO WORKED IN
AN OFFICE.

HMM. I
GUESS
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

EVEN IF YOU ARE
MARRIED, YOU CAN
JUST TAKE THE
RING OFF, THOUGH,
SO I MEAN, IT
SEEMS SORT OF
POINTLESS AT THE
END OF THE DAY.

I THINK I'VE
HEARD YOU CAN
GET TATTOOS
REMOVED
SURGICALLY
NOWADAYS.

OH, OR A FAMILY
CREST!

YOU COULD GET
ANOTHER ONE
EVERY TIME YOU
GOT DIVORCED
AND REMARRIED.

TATTOOS?! I
GUESS YOU'D
HAVE TO THINK
LONG AND HARD
BEFORE YOU GOT
MARRIED THEN!

WELL, WHAT
ABOUT
TATTOOS?

YOU COULD
GET A TRIBAL
PATTERN ON
THE BACK OF
YOUR HAND
OR SOME-
THING.

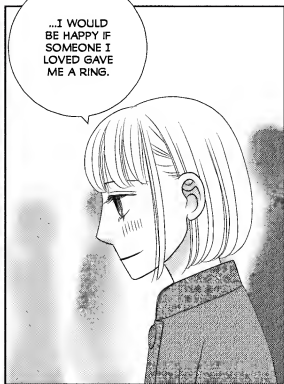
THAT SEEMS
KIND OF
CRUNCHY.



WELL
THEN...

BUT...

...I WOULD
BE HAPPY IF
SOMEONE I
LOVED GAVE
ME A RING.



**I HAVE
TO TELL
HIM.**

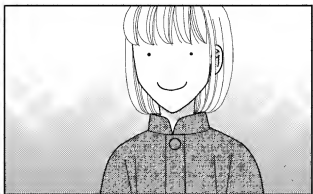
IT'S NO
PROBLEM.

SORRY
THIS IS A
BIT OF A
WALK.

**GAH! HE'S
ALREADY GOT
HIS HEART SET
ON THAT!**

...LET ME BUY
ONE FOR YOU
ONCE YOU'RE
ON MY FAMILY
REGISTRY.







...HIRAMASA-SAN.

I'D LOVE TO TRY YOUR HOMEMADE VERSION.



THE WAY THE TOFU'S MIXED INTO THIS GREEN SALAD, IT'S ALMOST LIKE CHEESE! I SHOULD GIVE IT A SHOT SOMETIME.

HUH?



ABOUT HOW YOU WANT ME ON YOUR FAMILY REGISTRY...

HUH?!

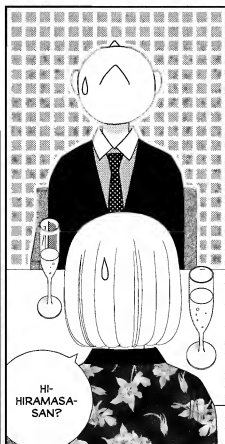
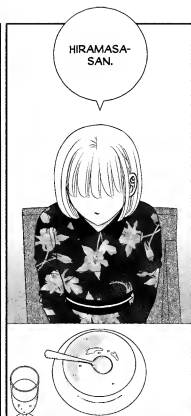


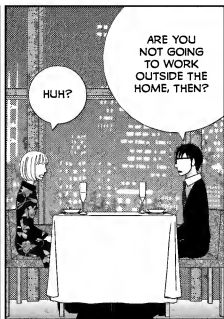
I REALLY HATE TO HAVE TO SAY THIS HERE...

WHAT?!

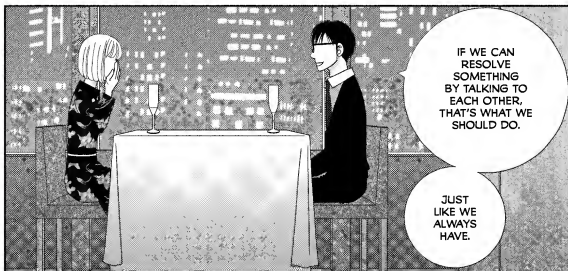
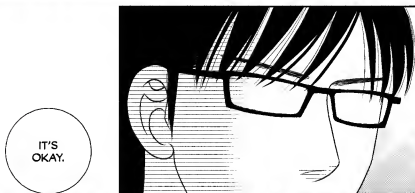


...BUT IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD FOR ME TO JUST SIT HERE WORRYING ABOUT IT, SO I NEED TO TELL YOU.







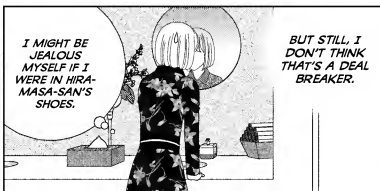
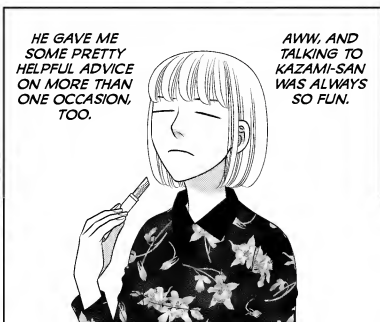




OH BOY...



LADIES





WITH MY LAST
BOYFRIEND, WE
WERE BOTH
BROKE STUDENTS,
SO WE ALWAYS
SPLIT THE BILL.

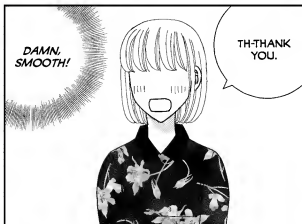
WOW, I DON'T
THINK ANY-
BODY'S EVER
TREATED ME TO
DINNER BEFORE
TONIGHT!



WHAT
ABOUT
THE BILL?

SHALL
WE GET
GOING?

I'VE
ALREADY
TAKEN CARE
OF IT.



DAMN,
SMOOTH!

TH-THANK
YOU.



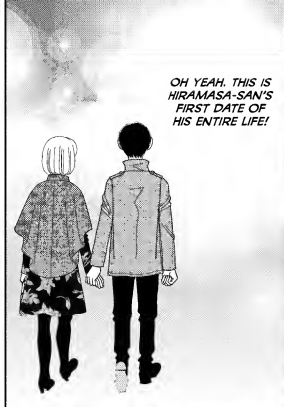
DATES
ARE NICE,
AREN'T
THEY?

YES,
THEY
ARE.



NOT THAT I
MIND GOING
DUTCH...

...BUT IT MAKES
ME HAPPY TO
BE TREATED
LIKE HE THINKS
I'M SPECIAL.



OH YEAH. THIS IS
HIRAMASA-SAN'S
FIRST DATE OF
HIS ENTIRE LIFE!



I ALWAYS
WANTED TO
GO ON ONE.



...MIKURI-
SAN.



LET'S DO
IT AGAIN
SOMETIME.



TALK ABOUT GETTING AHEAD.

FROM HIS FIRST DATE TO A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL IN ONE DAY...

HE'S PROPOSING!

MAY I BUY US RINGS?

ALTHOUGH,
WE'RE
ALREADY
MARRIED...
WHAT EVEN
IS THIS?

AND NOW
HE'S GETTING
ENGAGED ON
THE SAME
DAY.

...YES.

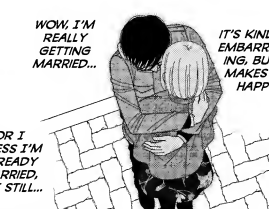
www.pearsoned.co.uk

THIS IS
THE FIRST
TIME HE'S
HUGGED ME
IN PUBLIC.

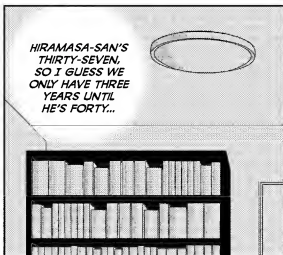
WOW, I'M
REALLY
GETTING
MARRIED...

IT'S KIND OF
EMBARRASS-
ING, BUT IT
MAKES ME
HAPPY.

OR I
GUESS I'M
ALREADY
MARRIED,
BUT STILL...



OF COURSE,
AFTER THAT, WE
GOT OURSELVES
ALL WORKED UP
AND...



SO HE'S PRO-
POSING WE
ABOLISH MY
OVERTIME
PAY!

A SET
ALLOWANCE?!

DON'T EVEN
TRY TO TELL
ME THAT'S NOT
EXPLOITATIVE!

ISN'T THAT BASICALLY
LIKE TELLING ME TO
DO THE SAME WORK
I'VE BEEN DOING FOR
LESS MONEY?

BUT...

TRYING TO
CHANGE THE
TERMS AFTER I'VE
ALREADY ACCEPT-
ED THE PROPOSAL
SEEMS PRETTY
UNFAIR, DON'T
YOU THINK?

RIGHT...

GIVE IT SOME
THOUGHT,
OKAY?

...I REALLY CAN'T SAY
THAT HIRAMASA-SAN'S
WRONG EXACTLY.

AFTER ALL, I THINK
THAT'S HOW MOST
PEOPLE DO THINGS.

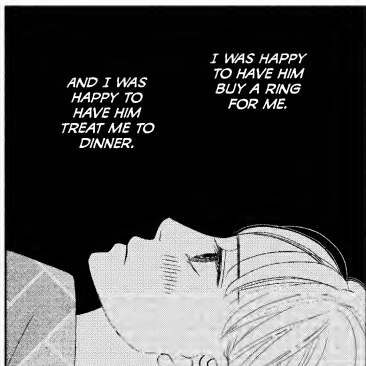
I'M EXPECTING HIM
TO PLAY THE ROLE
OF "THE MAN" IN
THIS RELATIONSHIP,
SO OF COURSE HE
EXPECTS ME TO
PLAY "THE WOMAN."

IN LIGHT OF
THAT, HOW AM
I SUPPOSED TO
DEMAND THAT
HE PAY ME
ACCORDING TO
MY WORK?

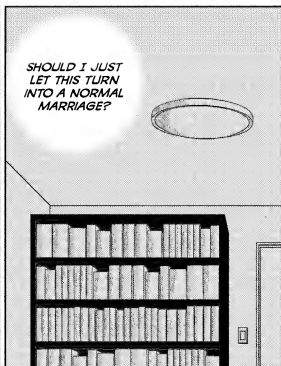
BESIDES...

AND I WAS
HAPPY TO
HAVE HIM
TREAT ME TO
DINNER.

I WAS HAPPY
TO HAVE HIM
BUY A RING
FOR ME.



SHOULD I JUST
LET THIS TURN
INTO A NORMAL
MARRIAGE?





*I MEAN, I
LOVE YOU.*

*I DON'T WANT
TO MAKE YOU
DISLIKE ME BY
COMPLAINING
TOO MUCH.*

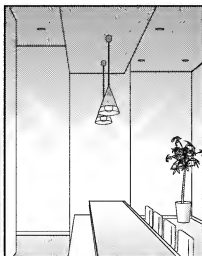


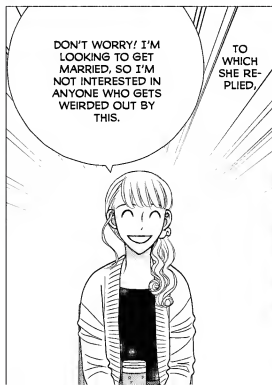
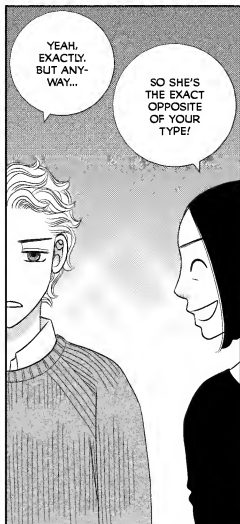
*IF IT'S NOT ONE
THING BOTH-
ERING ME, IT'S
ANOTHER!*

*UGH, BUT
STILL!*



*I NEVER
THOUGHT
YOU'D INVITE
ME OUT FOR
DRINKS.*





WELL, THERE IS
A LIMIT ON HOW
LONG I CAN WAIT
BEFORE HAVING
CHILDREN, AND I'M
WORRIED ABOUT
THE FUTURE.

MAYBE ANOTHER WAY
OF PUTTING IT IS THAT
I WOULDN'T HAVE ANY
REASON TO GET MARRIED
IF I HAD A GOOD JOB
AND EITHER ALREADY HAD
OR DIDN'T WANT KIDS.

THEN, WHEN
I ASKED HER
WHY SHE
WANTED TO
GET MARRIED
SO BADLY...

I SEE, SO
SHE WAS
USING THAT
AS A FILTER.

THAT'S WHY
YOU INVITED
ME OUT?!

YOU
LITTLE!

AND THAT
REMINDS ME
OF YOU.

HINO-SAN TOLD ME
THAT GOING AFTER
YOU WOULD BE ASKING
FOR TOO MUCH, SINCE
YOU'RE GOOD-LOOKING,
MAKE DECENT MONEY,
AND ARE YOUNGER
THAN ME.

BUT I CAN'T
LET THAT KIND
OF THING HOLD
ME BACK.

I THOUGHT SHE WAS
SORT OF BORING
AT FIRST, BUT ONCE
WE GOT TO TALKING,
SHE TURNED OUT TO
BE PRETTY INTER-
ESTING.



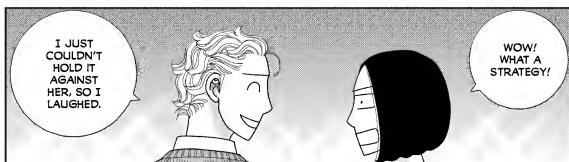
SO, KAZAMI-SAN,
PLEASE INTRO-
DUCE ME TO
SOMEONE NICE
YOU KNOW!



BUT THEN YOU'LL OWE
ME ONE, AND I CAN
USE THAT TO GET YOU
TO INTRODUCE ME TO
ANOTHER NICE PERSON
YOU KNOW.

OF COURSE
A GUY LIKE
YOU IS GO-
ING TO TURN
ME DOWN!

AFTER ALL,
COOL PEOPLE
TEND TO
HAVE COOL
FRIENDS.



I JUST
COULDN'T
HOLD IT
AGAINST
HER, SO I
LAUGHED.

WOW!
WHAT A
STRATEGY!



I MEAN, SHE
WANTS TO GET
MARRIED RIGHT
AWAY,

AND I STILL
HAVE MY
DOUBTS
ABOUT
MARRIAGE.

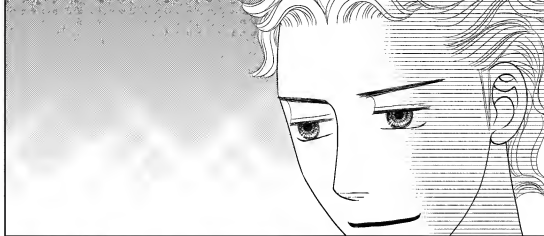


YOU
SHOULD
GO OUT
WITH HER.

I'M NOT
GONNA DO
THAT.

SOUNDS LIKE
A SMART
LADY. I BET
SHE'S GOOD
AT HER JOB,
TOO.





FAR FROM IT, IT STRUCK ME THAT MARRYING A GUY LIKE THAT WOULD LET ME BECOME A PARENT EVEN AT MY AGE!

YOU WOULDN'T MIND A GUY WHO HAD CHILDREN?



HE WAS THIS SINGLE FATHER, FOUR YEARS YOUNGER THAN ME.

OH YEAH. HEY, I GOT INTRODUCED TO THIS GUY MYSELF THE OTHER DAY.

HUH?



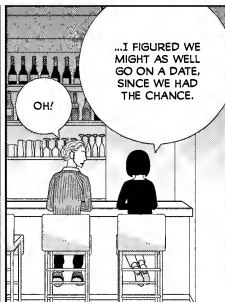
THERE'S THE RUB.

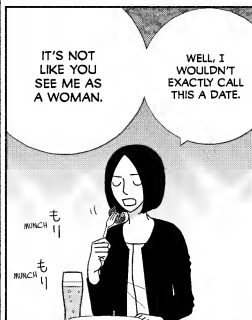
DO YOU WANT A FAMILY THEN?

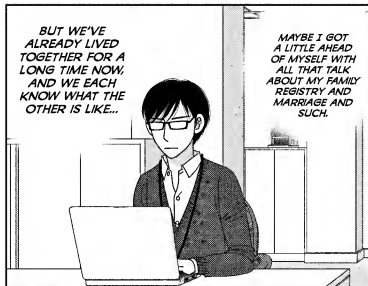


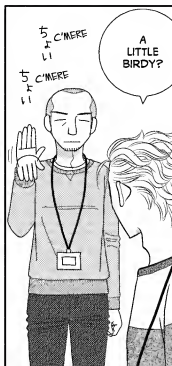
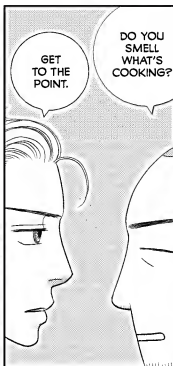
IF THEY WERE THE CHILDREN OF SOMEONE I LOVED, I'D WANT TO RAISE THEM RIGHT EVEN IF THEY WEREN'T MINE..

AND WHETHER THEY SAW ME AS THEIR MOTHER OR NOT, WE COULD PROBABLY AT LEAST BE FAMILY.









...MIGHT BE
GETTING
DOWN-
SIZED.

OUR
DEPART-
MENT...

Special Thanks to

**Mio Hase,
my family and friends,
Kamakura-san,
Murakami-san,
Komuro-san,
everyone who cooperated with my interviews,**

and YOU!

**With Love,Tsunami
Umino, 2015**

**You can follow my work at this blog!
<http://uminotsunami.seesaa.net/>**

Afterword

This is my forty-second tankobon.

My, how far I've come!

Since I made a slot point out of Hiramasa's middle-aged virginity, I got to thinking that I'd eventually have to show how he lost it when I saw a review in a men's magazine where the author said they were looking forward to seeing that, although it wasn't something I gave much thought to at first.

Personally, I find the whole thing partly funny and partly really touching. What do you think?

And by the same stroke that I've introduced fooling around into the manga, this has become a story that will be about marriage and work from here on out. I hope you'll stick with me till the end.

Also, this year, I won the thirty-ninth annual Kodansha Manga Award.

In the past, when Kaiten Ginka was nominated, I hadn't been expecting it since it hadn't sold all that well or anything, but I got pretty excited to see what the judges would have to say about it.

But it turned out they didn't even touch on my work in their comments, so I ended up pretty embarrassed over how much I had worried about what they would think.

So I didn't let myself get too worked up about getting nominated this time, but then I won. Reading over the judges' comments, I started thinking about last time and got overwhelmed with emotion.

I was quite content to get to see so many people I'd missed and be congratulated so much at the award ceremony.

I've never married, but I think that was a happier occasion than a wedding.

At the after-party, Satoru Hiura-sensei said to me, "You may not be young, Tsunamin, but there are a lot of people who are going to be encouraged by you winning this award at your age." Maybe she's right.

Many talented people start getting a lot of attention not long after their debut, but I started at eighteen and have never made anything that was a real hit or been allowed to do any long-running serials. I feel like I've only made it this far by carving out a little niche for myself.

Lately, I was wondering what might have happened to me if I had gotten married in my twenties.

I wasn't getting much work back then, so if I'd gotten married and had kids, maybe I would have quit my job.

Either that, or maybe I'd be telling different kinds of stories than I do now.

Whatever choice I made, in the end, I think I'd probably still be living my life with all the ups and downs that implies.

That makes me think that, instead of regretting what you could have done, you have to live each day of the present to its fullest.

I've just been steadily working at what I think is fun and interesting for twenty-six years. Receiving a prize now, I feel sort of like I'm being told, "Good job!"

On the other hand, I haven't made it to the end yet, so I'd like to keep doing the very best I possibly can until I do.

My body's been getting weaker over time, and it's gotten to the point where I can't push myself like I used to.

Especially lately, I can't eat all that much. If I get a little full, it hurts too much to try to fit anything more in.

That's what it's like to get old!

It's the pain of not being able to eat something even if it looks delicious.

I'm not in a position to eat things that I'm not excited about. And that doesn't just go for food, either.

As much as I can, I intend to go the places I want to go, to eat the things I want to eat, to see the people I want to see. I'm not going to just wear whatever. I'm going to wear the clothes that I'm excited about wearing.

That way, I can make each average day of my life seem a little special.

The same goes for cooking. Like if I think about how I'm going to barbecue some ribs the next day, I start getting pumped the day before.

But I've been pushing myself a little bit lately despite my lack of time.

That's why I'm begging you to give me some time off,
Editor-in-Chief.

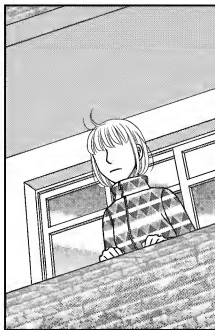
Anyway, I hope you're looking forward to where things go from here!

LOOK FORWARD
TO VOLUME 7.

In the next volume...

7

THE FULL-TIME Wife ESCAPIST



HAVING ACCEPTED HIRAMASA'S
PROPOSAL, MIKURI IS GETTING
UNEASY ABOUT HER HOUSEKEEPING
BECOMING NOT A JOB ANYMORE
DUE TO THEIR MARRIAGE...
PLUS, IS IT FINALLY TIME FOR A BIG
DECISION?!



COMING SOON!

Translation Notes

Honey ghosting, page 22 [22.3]

This joke was originally a pun. The word Hiramasa originally used was the slang term *sukisake* (literally, “avoiding what you like.” The dish depicted here is sukiyaki, and the legs represent a character named Sukekiyo from the 1976 film adaptation of Seishi Yokomizo’s novel *The Inugami Clan*. Sukekiyo’s corpse is found in a lake with both legs sticking out as depicted here. This scene is fairly well known, as it appeared on posters for the movie.



Seafaring Weather Always Comes Eventually, page 33 [33.1]

This expression is similar in meaning to “Good things come to those who wait.” It’s derived from the fact that, even if the weather is too rough for sailing today, more favorable conditions will inevitably come around if you simply wait long enough.



Don't Knock It Till You've Tried It, page 91 [91.1]

A more literal translation of the proverb that is this chapter's title would be, “Judge a horse by riding it; judge a person by getting close to them.” This expression was originally aimed at encouraging people to get married, suggesting that they couldn’t really get to know each other without first getting as close as possible.



Laundry and rainy days, page 104 [104.1]

Mikuri can't do laundry while it's raining because she would need to put the clothes outside to dry, as is typical in Japan.



Painting teeth black, page 129 [129.2]

At various points in Japanese history, there has existed a custom of women painting their teeth black to indicate maturity or marriage. This practice, known as *ohaguro*, fell out of favor in the late nineteenth century during the Meiji period.



The Full-Time Wife Escapist 6

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

The Full-Time Wife Escapist volume 6 copyright © 2015 Tsunami Umino
English translation copyright © 2017 Tsunami Umino

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2015 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through
Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or
by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC,
San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682339640

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation by Rose Padgett

Lettering by Andrew Copeland

Editing by Sarah Tilson

YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.

